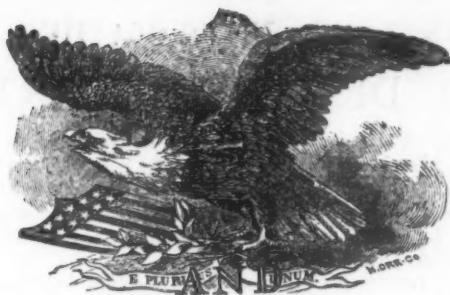


ARMY



NAVY

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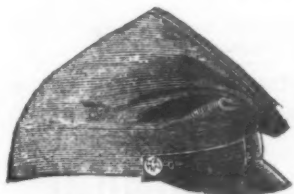
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WHOLE NUMBER 441.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1872.

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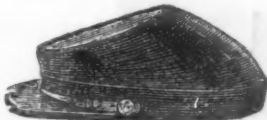
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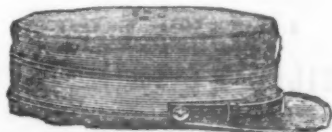
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WHOLE NUMBER 441.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1872.

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THE ARMY.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending January 29, 1872.

Tuesday, January 23.

LEAVE of absence for six months is hereby granted Chaplain Elijah Guion, Tenth Cavalry.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Medical Department are hereby made: Assistant Surgeon J. A. Fitzgerald is relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri, and will report to the superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, to relieve Assistant Surgeon Van Buren Hubbard from duty at that station. Upon being relieved by Assistant Surgeon Fitzgerald, Assistant Surgeon Hubbard will report in person to the commanding officer Fort Jefferson, Florida (and by letter to the commanding officer and medical director Department of the Gulf) for duty at that post, relieving Assistant Surgeon Samuel A. Storrow, who, upon being relieved, will proceed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, reporting by letter upon his arrival there to the Surgeon-General.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Thomas J. March, Seventh Cavalry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect March 10, 1872.

Major Absalom Baird, assistant inspector-general, will proceed to Washington, D. C., on official business, returning to his station on the completion of the duty.

Captain Stephen C. Lyford, Ordnance Department, will report in person to the superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, for duty as instructor of ordnance and the science of gunnery at the Academy.

Musician George Chambers, General Service U. S. Army, Newport Barracks, Kentucky, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Musician James H. Murphy, General Service U. S. Army, now supposed to be at Fort Columbus, New York harbor, is hereby assigned to the engineer battalion at Willet's Point, New York harbor, and will be forwarded to that post at the first convenient opportunity. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Wednesday, January 24.

Musician Walter Williams, Twenty-fourth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under paragraph 1, 371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

Private Henry L. Wolff, Company C, Ninth Infantry, who deserted August 21, 1869, and enlisted November 3, 1869, in Company F, Sixteenth Infantry, under the name of Henry L. Hoffman, having surrendered himself to the military authorities at Nashville, Tennessee, December 16, 1871, where he is now in confinement, is hereby restored to duty without trial, upon condition that he make good the time lost by desertion and refund any expense incurred by the United States by his desertion, and is transferred to Company F, Sixteenth Infantry.

The extension of leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant R. E. Coxo, Jr., Eighth Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 2, January 3, 1872, from the Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby further extended thirty days.

Thursday, January 25.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Unattached Private Francis G. Harris, Fifth Artillery, with transportation from this city to Fort Adams, Rhode Island, the cost of which will be charged to the soldier upon the rolls of his command.

Recruit John B. Lewis, General Service U. S. Army, now at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, will be discharged the service of the United States, provided there be no impediment, as desertion, etc., upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under paragraph 1371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

Sergeant Isaac V. Munger, General Service U. S. Army, now with Signal Service Detachment U. S. Army, at St. Paul, Minn., will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private William H. Allen, General Service Detachment headquarters Military Division of the South, now with his command, will report in person without delay to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

A board of examination having found Captain John Williams, Twenty-fifth Infantry, incapacitated for active service, and that said incapacity does not result from long and faithful service, nor from wounds or injury received in the line of duty, nor from any incident of service, the President directs that in accordance with section 17 of the act of August 3, 1861, he be wholly retired from the service with one year's pay, and that his name be henceforward omitted from the Army Register.

Leave of absence for forty days, with permission to visit Panama, is hereby granted Major R. S. Williamson, Corps of Engineers.

Private M. William Fellmer, Company C, Twentieth Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. Army, will report by letter to the commanding general Department of Dakota for assignment to duty.

Friday, January 26.

Unattached Private Francis G. Harris, Fifth Artillery, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Private William H. Smith, Company H, Second Cavalry, now at Camp Douglas, Utah Territory, is hereby transferred to Company D, Second Cavalry, stationed at that post.

The telegraphic order of the 23d instant, from this office, directing First Lieutenant William H. Clapp, Sixteenth Infantry, to proceed without delay to Washington, D. C., and report to the adjutant-general, is hereby confirmed.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant O. H. Conrad, Fifteenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 14, January 21, 1872, from depot General Recruiting Service, Newport Barracks, Kentucky, is hereby extended ten days.

Ordnance Sergeant Adolf Franz is hereby relieved from duty at Fort Union, New Mexico, and will report in person to the commanding officer Jackson Barracks, Louisiana, for duty at that post. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation and the Subsistence Department commutation of rations at the usual rates.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon Joseph B. Girard will report in person to the commanding officer Newport Barracks, Kentucky, for temporary duty at that depot.

Paragraph 4, Special Orders No. 391, October 6, 1871, from this office, stopping from the pay of First Lieutenant John D. Myrick, Tenth Cavalry, the amount of expenses incurred in the enlistment of Simpson Miller, a rejected recruit, is hereby revoked.

The superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare and forward, under proper charge, the following detachments of recruits: Twenty-nine to Key West Barracks, Florida, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Batteries B and D, Third Artillery. Sixty-one to Fort Jefferson, Florida, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Batteries F, L, and M, Third Artillery. Ten to Savannah, Georgia, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Battery K, Third Artillery. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Saturday, January 27.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant James Joyes, Seventeenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 450, November 20, 1871, from this office, is hereby extended until he can reach his command by the first boat leaving Sioux City, Iowa, up the Missouri river, on or after April 10, 1872.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the appointment of Private Adolph Fisher, Company B, First Cavalry, as hospital steward U. S. Army (announced in Special Orders No. 364, September 18, 1871, from this office), is hereby revoked, and he will be returned to duty with the company from which he was appointed.

Private John Glanz, Company H, Twelfth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Private Hugh M. Smith, Battery L, First Artillery, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving, to enable him to enter the Signal Service detachment U. S. Army. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Private John Myers, Company A, Seventh Infantry, now at Camp Douglas, Utah Territory, is hereby transferred to Company C, Thirteenth Infantry, stationed at that post.

The commanding general Department of Dakota will grant a furlough for four months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Sergeant William Bolton, Company G, Seventeenth Infantry, now serving with his command.

Second Class Private William Frank, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army, now at Allegheny Arsenal, Pennsylvania, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private Albion H. Carr, Company A, Sixth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Private John L. Cramer, Company M, First Cavalry, now in confinement with his command, awaiting trial for desertion, will be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

The stoppage of pay ordered by paragraph 9, Special Orders No. 260, September 30, 1870, from this office, to be made against Second Lieutenant James Calhoun,

Twenty-first Infantry, (now First Lieutenant, Seventh Cavalry), until the money value of 159,052 pounds of hay found deficient at Camp Grant, Arizona Territory, is made good at the contract price of twenty-five dollars, gold coin, per ton, is hereby removed, and the amount involved will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the Subsistence Department, it appearing from an investigation by a Court of Inquiry convened at Camp Grant by Special Orders No. 76, October 17, 1871, from headquarters Department of Arizona, and an examination of Lieutenant Calhoun's subsistence returns for the period in which the deficiency is supposed to have occurred, that the amount of hay found deficient was consumed by animals belonging to the Subsistence Department. The Quartermaster's Department will refund to Lieutenant Calhoun the amount turned over to it, if any, under the order directing the stoppage from his pay.

Monday, January 29.

Private Conrad Kramer, Company G, Twentieth Infantry, now in this city on furlough, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order by the commanding officer of his command. The discharge papers will be forwarded to this office. This soldier is not entitled to travel pay.

Second Class Private Martin H. Donnohoe, Ordnance Detachment, U. S. Army, now at Benicia Arsenal, California, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private Charles Aubrey, General Service Detachment, headquarters Military Division of the South, now with his command, is hereby transferred to the General Service Detachment, headquarters Department of the Gulf, and will report in person without delay for duty. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant William Ennis, Fourth Artillery, in Special Orders No. 204, December 20, 1871, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended sixty days.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company B, Second Infantry, from Huntsville, Ala., to Atlanta, Ga., January 20.
Company C, Second Infantry, from Atlanta, Ga., to Huntsville, Ala., January 20.

PAYMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

WASHINGTON, January 20, 1872.

The following circular to chief paymasters is republished for the information and guidance of officers of the Pay Department:

WASHINGTON, October 14, 1871.

It has become necessary that estimates shall hereafter be made with an approximate accuracy, close as the circumstances will admit. To this end, and to support their general correctness, it is required that all estimates, under the appropriations for the "pay of the Army," shall be accompanied with a statement of the troops to be paid, designating the regiments, field and staff, and number of companies of each (estimated as full companies with their complement of officers), the number of generals and general staff officers, and the non-commissioned staff and other men not of regiments.

These may be estimated for in gross, without giving names of officers, as follows:

1. For generals and general staff officers. (Include in these contract surgeons.) \$—
2. For regiments—cavalry, field and staff, and companies. \$—
- For regiments—artillery, field and staff, and companies. \$—
- For regiments—infantry, field and staff, and companies. \$—
- Total. \$—

Estimates on the above basis it is believed will give abundant margin for transient payments to officers and discharged soldiers. Chief paymasters in distribution to paymasters must look closely to the object and purpose of this circular, and furnish no more money to any officer than shall be reasonably ample for the payments assigned to him.

From each estimate must be deducted the probable balance under each appropriation remaining unexpended and available for the period embraced in the estimate.

(Signed) B. W. BRUCE, Paymaster-General U. S. Army.

WASHINGTON, November 8, 1871.

Particular attention is called to the new forms (No. 9 "A" and No. 9 "B") of weekly statements forwarded to paymasters this day.

They are designed to replace at once the form No. 9, now in use. Form No. 9 "A" is intended for the copy required to be sent to the Treasurer of the United States.

Form No. 9 "B" will be used only for the copy intended for this office. Its special purposes are clearly indicated by the several printed endorsements thereon. It should be forwarded to this office with the least practicable delay after its receipt by the chief paymasters.

The destination of each of these forms and the manner of transmitting the same is prescribed in Note 1 thereon; the address is, furthermore, printed upon the lower left-hand corner of each blank.

As, under existing regulations, chief paymasters have the immediate control of their subordinates, the direction of their duties and management of their money supplies, and are expected to exercise careful vigilance and scrutiny in regard to the public funds, their approbatory endorsement of the statement No. 9 "B" will be considered to comprehend that the balances therein stated are, to the best of their knowledge and belief, correct and not in excess of the approximate needs of the officer's station.

Chief paymasters will instruct their subordinates in the use of these forms as herein prescribed.

(Signed) B. W. BRUCE, Paymaster-General U. S. Army.

BENJAMIN ALVORD, Acting Paymaster-General U. S. Army.

Official: J. H. EATON, Paymaster, U. S. Army.

Circular No. 32.

WASHINGTON, January 25, 1872.

I. Whenever an officer of this Department is directed to close his accounts and turn over the balance of public funds in his hands (which should be done whenever he renews his bond, or is ordered to change his station, or goes on leave of absence of more than ten days), it must in all cases be effected by an actual bona fide transfer

of funds, whether by cash or by transfer-check upon the proper depository. In the latter case the check must be immediately transmitted by the payee for transfer to his credit. Any departure from a literal compliance with this regulation is strictly forbidden.

II. Chief Paymasters are, *ex-officio*, inspectors within their departments, and should make inspections as frequently as may be necessary, in order "to exercise the careful vigilance and scrutiny in regard to the public funds," enjoined by former circulars from this office, and to enable them to make understandingly the monthly reports required in paragraph 54 of the Paymaster's Manual. But inspections requiring travel will only be made under the orders and in the discretion of the department commander.

One of the U. S. Depositories having declined to give a chief paymaster a statement of the balance then to the credit of a paymaster, the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury writes to this office, under date of January 15, 1872, as follows:

"The president of said National bank had advised me of its action and requested instructions in the premises, which were given by directing him to furnish the desired information. As this is the first case of the kind that has been brought to my attention, and I am under the impression that but few depositories would refuse to furnish such information upon proper applications, I do not deem it necessary to issue any general instructions at present, but will do so should similar occurrences demand it."

III. Paymasters are reminded that by P. M. G. Circular No. 80, and also by the Treasury Circular of January 2, 1872, published in General Orders No. 1, current series, from Adjutant-General's office, all checks must be endorsed as required in said circulars.

IV. The requirements contained in Circulars to Chief Paymasters, dated November 13, 1867, and October 20, 1868, will be strictly observed. Estimates should be prepared and promptly mailed to reach this office not later than the 10th of each alternate month, about forty days preceding the muster for which funds are required, that is, by the 20th of January, 20th of March, 20th of May, and so on. This regulation will not be understood as forbidding chief paymasters at very remote stations making estimates still earlier than the dates above indicated.

V. Paymasters will forward, through the Paymaster-General, on every 30th day of June, the report to the Secretary of the Treasury of outstanding checks remaining unpaid for three years and more, as required by act of May 2, 1866. (See paragraph 42, Paymaster's Manual.)

VI. Paymasters, before commencing the payment of troops, should always have the authority of the commanding officer of the post or regiment.

Acting Paymaster General U. S. Army.

Official: J. H. EATON, Paymaster, U. S. Army.

MAJOR-GENERAL HALLECK.

To our editorial tribute to the memory of General Halleck, we are permitted to add a further record of his services and description of his character from the pen of one whose long association with him, in the most intimate relations, gave him unusual opportunities for acquaintance.

MAJOR-GENERAL HENRY WAGER HALLECK who was born January 15, 1815, at Westernville, Oneida county, N. Y., died January 9, 1872, at Louisville, Ky., the headquarters of the Military Division of the South, aged 57.

After receiving an ordinary common school education at Hudson Academy, N. Y., and passing through a part of the course at Union College, he entered the United States Military Academy July 1, 1835, from which he was graduated third in a class of thirty-one, and thence promoted to the Army July 1, 1839, a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. His marked ability and skill as an instructor while a cadet caused his being retained as assistant professor of engineering at the Academy till June 28, 1840. He then, for a year, was assigned as an assistant to the Board of Engineers at Washington, D. C., where he prepared a work on "Bitumen: its Varieties, Properties and Uses," which embraced all then known of the application of asphalt to military structures. From Washington he was transferred to assist in the construction of the fortifications of New York Harbor where he remained till 1846, except while on a tour of examination, in 1845, of public works in Europe. During his absence he was promoted, June 1, 1845, to a first lieutenant. Upon his return to the United States the committee of the Lowell Institute at Boston, Mass., attracted by Halleck's able report on "Coast Defense" published by Congress, invited him to deliver a course of twelve lectures on the Science of War. These he published in 1846 in a volume with an introductory chapter on the "Justifiableness of War," under the title of "Elements of Military Art and Science," a second edition of which, with the addition of much valuable matter, including notes on the Mexican and Crimean wars, appeared in 1861. This popular compendium, then the best in our language, was much in quest by students of the military profession, and subsequently during the Rebellion became a manual for most officers of the Army, and particularly for volunteers.

On the outbreak of the Mexican war Lieutenant Halleck was detailed as the engineer for military operations on the Pacific coast, and sailed with Captain Tompkins' artillery command in the transport *Lexington* which after a seven months' voyage reached her destination at Monterey, Cal. During this long and tedious passage round Cape Horn he underwent, partly as a military study and partly for the occupation of a mind not to be amused with trifles, a translation from the French of Baron Jomini's *Vie Politique et Militaire de Napoleon*, which in 1864 with the aid of a friend he revised and published in four octavo volumes with an atlas. This celebrated life of Napoleon, which had disclosed to the military world the secrets of the success of the great master of strategy in his wonderful campaigns, needs no new commendation; but, strange to say, it had never been translated into English, and in view of Halleck's graceful and perspicuous version none other will be required.

After partially fortifying Monterey as a port of refuge for our Pacific fleet and base for land incursions into California, Lieutenant Halleck took an active part, both civil and military, in all our affairs on this distant theatre of war. As secretary of state under the military governments of Generals Mason and Riley, he displayed great energy, high administrative qualities, excellent judgment, and admirable adaptability to his varied and onerous duties. As a military engineer he accompanied several expeditions, particu-

larly that of Colonel Burton into Lower California, being engaged in the skirmishes of Palos Prietos, Urias, Todos Santos, and San Antonio, having in twenty-eight hours with a few mounted volunteers made a forced march of 120 miles to the latter place and surprised a considerable Mexican garrison, the governor barely escaping capture. Besides his engineer duties he performed those of aide-de-camp to Commodore Shubrick during naval and military operations on the Pacific coast, including the capture of Mazatlan, of which for a time Halleck was lieutenant-governor; and was also chief of Colonel Burton's staff on his Lower California expedition. For these gallant and meritorious services he was breveted a captain to date from May 1, 1847.

After the termination of hostilities and the acquisition of California by the United States, a substantial government became necessary. General Riley, in military command of the territory, called a convention of delegates to meet at Monterey, September 1, 1849, to frame a State constitution. This convention, after about six weeks' consideration, agreed upon a constitution which was submitted to and adopted by the people, and by act of Congress September 9, 1850, California was admitted into the union of American States. In all of these important transactions, affecting the destiny of our new golden possessions and which converted a turbulent community into a civilized and orderly commonwealth, Halleck was the great central figure on whose brow "deliberation sat and public care." He, as the real head of Riley's military government, initiated the movement of State organization, pressed it forward with vigor, and was a member of the convention to form and of the committee to draft the adopted constitution, of which instrument he was substantially the author. So highly were his services appreciated that he might have been elected one of the new U. S. Senators but he was unwilling then to relinquish his military profession. Continuing in the Army he remained as aide-de-camp on the staff of General Riley; from December 21, 1852, was inspector and engineer of light-houses, and from April 11, 1853, a member of the board of engineers for fortifications on the Pacific coast; and was promoted captain of Engineers, July 1, 1855—all of which positions he held till his resignation, August 1, 1854, from the military service.

After leaving the Army, where his pay was inadequate to his support and the future presented no distinguished career, Halleck devoted himself to the practice of the law in a firm of which for some time he had been a prominent member; and continued as director general of the New Almaden quicksilver mine, a position he had held since 1850. Though among an irrepressible people, where it might be supposed his professional duties would have absorbed all his thoughts, Halleck's active brain found time for deep study and the preparation of valuable works, among which were "A Collection of Mining Laws of Spain and Mexico," 1859; a translation of "De Pooz on the Law of Mines with Introductory Remarks," 1860; and his great treatise on "International Law, or Rules Regulating the Intercourse of States in Peace and War," 1861, which he subsequently condensed and modified to adapt it "for the use of schools and colleges," 1866. The latter work and its abridgement continue to hold the highest rank among publicists; have placed their author in the forefront with Vattel, Phillimore, Wheaton, etc.; are quoted as authority by our own diplomats and statesmen; and are warmly commended abroad by such learned men as Dr. Heffter, judge of the Supreme Court of Prussia, and professor of the law of nations in the University of Berlin. Halleck also was in 1855 president of the Pacific and Atlantic railroad from San Francisco to San Jose, Cal., and major-general of California militia, 1860-'61.

Union College, as early as 1843, recognized in Halleck a pupil worthy of the degree of A. M.; and upon the matured scholar and soldier of 1862 conferred that of LL. D. In 1848 he was appointed professor of Engineering in the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard University, but declined the honor.

The outbreak of the Rebellion found Halleck at the head of the most prominent law firm in San Francisco, and with large interests and much valuable property in California. Living in affluence, and at an age when men are usually excused from the performance of military duty, Halleck, notwithstanding, at once sacrificed self for country and tendered his sword and talents in defence of the Union. General Scott, well knowing his worth, immediately and strongly urged upon President Lincoln his being commissioned with the highest grade in the regular Army. Accordingly he was appointed a major-general to date from August 19, 1861, accepting which he without delay repaired to Washington, was ordered to St. Louis, and November 18, 1861, took command of the Department of Missouri, embracing the States Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Arkansas, and western Kentucky. Around him was a chaos of insubordination, inefficiency, and peculation requiring the prompt, energetic, and ceaseless exercise of his iron will, military knowledge, and administrative powers. The scattered forces of his command were a medley of almost every nationality, with the organization of each and the excellence of none; Missouri and Kentucky were practically but a border screen to cover the operations of the seceding South; and even his headquarters, St. Louis, fortified at exorbitant cost and in violation of all true engineering principles, neither protected the city from insurrection within nor from the besiegers without. Hardly had Halleck assumed command before his remorseless juggernaut of reform began to crush out every abuse and scatter all opposing obstacles. Fraudulent contracts were annulled; useless stipendiaries were dismissed; a colossal staff hierarchy, with more titles than brain, was disbanded; composite organizations were pruned to simpler uniformity; the construction of fantastic fortifications was suspended; and in a few weeks order reigned in Missouri. With like vigor he dealt blow after blow upon all who, under the mask of citizens, abetted treason—informants communicating with the enemy were treated as spies; bridge-burners and marauders were tried and sentenced to death by military commissions; towns and counties were compelled to pay all damages to public property destroyed within their limits; carriages flaunting rebel flags were seized in the streets and promptly confiscated; women insulting our soldiers, or signalling the inmates of military prisons were confined to their homes; wealthy secessionists were assessed for the support of loyal refugees, and failing to pay were sent beyond our lines; and to make assurance doubly sure all officials of corporations, licensed lawyers, voters at elections, employees of the government, and even the faculty of the University of Missouri, were required to take the oath of allegiance to the United States. But while from headquarters thus energetically dealing with the traitors at home, he did not neglect the traitors in arms over whom by his admirable strategic combinations he quickly secured success after success till in less than six weeks after assuming command a clean sweep had been made of the entire country between the Missouri and Osage rivers, and General Price cut off from all supplies

and recruits from northern Missouri, to which he had been moving, was in full retreat for Arkansas.

Though the winter had set in, Halleck relaxed not a moment to ensure new victories. The Union supremacy in Missouri being established, he now turned his attention to the opening of the Mississippi river, which General Scott had intended unbarring by a flotilla and army descending it in force. Halleck, however, was satisfied that this plan would only scotch the serpent of secession, and the monster be again able to return upon its path. To effectually kill it and turn all the river strongholds, he felt that the Confederacy must be rent in twain by an armed wedge driven in between this great stream and the mountains on the east. On January 27, 1862, the President had ordered a general advance of all the land and naval forces of the United States to be simultaneously made against the insurgents in arms on the 22d of the coming month. In anticipation of his part of the grand movement, early in February Halleck sent his chief of staff to Cairo to direct in his name, when necessary, all operations auxiliary to the armies about to take the field on the Mississippi, Tennessee, and Cumberland rivers, which their respective commanders soon put in motion.

Up to this time all the efforts of our arms had been tentative, producing but local results. The Cabinet at Washington had yet to learn, what military minds knew so well, that a great victory won at a decisive point solves many vexed political problems. Not till long after was the demonstration of this established truth made evident by Charleston and Richmond, impenetrable to the most powerful front attacks, finally falling before simple strategic flank marches.

"One evening late in December, 1861," says Dr. Draper in his great History of the American Civil War, "Generals Halleck, Sherman, and Cullum were conversing together at the Planter's Hotel in St. Louis on the proper line of invasion. They saw clearly that the Confederates meant to stand on the defensive. . . . A map lay on the table, and with a blue pencil Halleck drew a line from Bowling Green to Columbus, past Donelson and Henry, and another perpendicular to its centre, which happened to coincide nearly with the Tennessee river. 'There,' said he, 'that is the true line of attack.' This rebel first line of defense lay screened behind Kentucky's quasi neutrality, with its flanks strongly protected by the fortifications of Columbus and Bowling Green; but its centre was but feebly secured by Forts Henry and Donelson. The second line of defense followed the railroad from Memphis on the Mississippi to Chattanooga, a most important position in the mountains, threatening both South Carolina and Virginia by its railroad connections with Charleston and Richmond. Still a third line, with almost continuous communication by rail, extended from Vicksburg through Meridian, Selma, and Montgomery, to Atlanta, with railroad branches reaching to the principal ports on the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Operating by the Ohio river as the base, and the navigable Tennessee and Cumberland as perpendicular lines of operations, it is needless to repeat history by stating the success of Halleck's masterly strategy, carried out by his able lieutenants against the Rebel first line of defense. In a little over three months of his sway in the west Forts Henry and Donelson had fallen, the strategically turned flanks of the enemy's line, protected by the powerful works of Bowling Green and Columbus, were deserted, and Nashville, the objective of the campaign, was in our possession. In the mean time Curtis had been sent to drive the Rebels out of Missouri, and early in March gained the decisive battle of Pea Ridge in Arkansas, the enemy flying before him to the protection of the White river; and Pope, despatched to New Madrid, after taking that place, confronted the fugitives from Columbus at Island No. 10, which, by the happy device of Hamilton's cut-off canal, was turned and taken in reverse, and this strong barrier of the Mississippi removed by the joint action of the Army and Navy. By these masterly operations the Confederate first line, from Kansas to the Alleghany mountains, being swept away, and the enemy's strongholds captured or evacuated, our forces moved triumphantly southward, pressing back the insurgents to their second line of defense, extending from Memphis to Chattanooga.

On March 11, 1862, to give greater unity to military operations in the West, the Departments of Kansas and Ohio were merged into Halleck's command, the whole constituting the Department of the Mississippi, which included the vast territory between the Alleghany and Rocky mountains. Buell, marching by railroad from Nashville, was directed, on the withdrawal of the enemy from Murfreesborough, to unite with Grant proceeding to Pittsburg Landing by the Tennessee. Their fortunate union secured the great victory of Shiloh. Then, to more immediately direct military operations, Halleck took the field, and, after reorganizing and recruiting his forces, moved on Corinth, where the enemy was strongly intrenched on the important strategic position at the junction where the railroads, connecting the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi river with the Atlantic Ocean came together. By striking a vigorous blow here on the enemy's left-centre Halleck proposed to repeat the strategy which had so admirably accomplished its purpose against the Confederate first line; but success was indispensable, hence he made every step of his progress so secure, that no disaster should be incurred involving the loss of what had already been gained with so much effort and bloodshed. So admirably were his successive camps guarded against surprise or sudden dash that Beauregard dared not attack, though on May 2 he made his arrangements and issued his proclamation to the "allies of Shiloh and Elkhorn" that he was about to give battle. A month after the initiation of Halleck's march, May 27, his compact columns were close upon Corinth's fifteen miles of heavy entrenchments, strengthened by powerful batteries or redoubts at every road or assailable point, and the whole covered to the boggy stream in front by a dense abatis, through which no artillery or cavalry, nor even infantry skirmishers, could have passed under fire. On the next day heavy siege guns were put in position, and everything made ready for a desperate attack upon the enemy, who had been hotly contesting our advance, doubtless to give themselves time to secure their retreat; and the destruction of their supplies. On the 29th operations were earnestly resumed against the enemy, who, though driven back at all points, preserved an unbroken front, and served his batteries with great energy. On the morning of the 30th the enemy's slackened fire proved what, from the noise of explosions and moving trains during the preceding night, had been feared—that Beauregard, despairing of maintaining himself in this immense stronghold of the Confederacy, constructed with so much labor and care, had fled. Upon the occupation of Corinth, its enclosing and commanding fortifications were found to be impregnable to assault; within desolation and smouldering ruins were everywhere visible; and the evacuation, commenced some days before by the removal of the sick, fully completed. Immediately Pope was sent in hot

pursuit of the retreating enemy; soon after Buell was despatched towards Chattanooga to destroy the railroad connections; Sherman was put in march for Memphis, but the Navy had captured the place when he had reached Grand Junction; without delay batteries were constructed on the southern approaches of the place to guard against any sudden return of the enemy; and with prodigious energy the destroyed railroad to Columbus was rebuilt to maintain our communications with the Mississippi and Ohio, in jeopardy by the sudden fall of the Tennessee, by which supplies had been received.

It had now been a little over six months since Halleck assumed command at St. Louis, and from within the limits of his department, during this period, the enemy had been driven from Missouri, the northern half of Arkansas, Kentucky, most of Tennessee, and strong lodgments made in Mississippi and Alabama. Well deserved, therefore, was the high compliment previously paid by Mr. Stanton, always chary of praise, that Halleck's "energy and ability received the strongest commendations of the War Department," and added, "You have my perfect confidence, and you may rely upon my utmost support in your undertakings." Such, in fact, was the very high appreciation entertained of Halleck's merits by both the Secretary of War and President that, during the General's occupation of Corinth, while organizing for new victories against the enemy's third line of defense, two assistant secretaries of war and a senator were sent there to urge upon Halleck the acceptance of the position of General-in-Chief; but he decidedly declined the high honor, and did not go to Washington till positive orders compelled him.

Halleck has been severely criticised for consuming six weeks in reaching Corinth. It must be remembered that our losses at Shiloh were very heavy, and the consequent demoralization such that no vigorous pursuit of the retreating enemy had been made. When Halleck arrived at Pittsburg Landing our armies had to be rehabilitated, reinforcements brought from a distance, and arms and supplies received. With the utmost exertions of the general and his staff these necessary preparations consumed over two weeks. When the forward movement began, it was over a very uneven country serrated into broken ridges and marshy valleys; through continuous and dense forests filled with tangled undergrowth; across swollen streams where burned bridges had to be rebuilt; over broken-up roads, often in deep morasses, and obstructed by felled timber; through a district where all supplies had to be transported, frequently on pack-mules; in a State whose every inhabitant was hostile and a spy for the enemy; in a region where no reconnaissance could be made except by force of arms; and, to crown all difficulties, deluging rains flooded the country, rendering communication almost impracticable. Perhaps more rapid marches may have been possible, but with forces exhausted, disheartened, and half prepared for battle, a like disaster to that incurred by the enemy at Shiloh might have been our fate, with the possible loss of all we had acquired, to say nothing of national dishonor. With such a weight of responsibility resting upon the commanding general, the inconsiderate criticisms on Halleck—particularly of those who have never made war—are hardly just. However, whether so or not, they must in some measure be shared by his distinguished lieutenants, subsequently our trusted leaders, for scarce was an important movement of the campaign made without their concurrence. Then all had confidence in Halleck, and it was sufficient that "Old Brains," his sobriquet with the Army, had decided upon any operation which, after the danger had passed, has too often since been flippantly condemned.

Reluctantly leaving Corinth, to which he hoped to return again to enter upon the great work of opening the Mississippi and crushing the Confederacy in the southwest, Halleck reached Washington July 23, 1862, and at once assumed command as General-in-Chief of all the armies of the United States. The first problem presented was how safely to unite the two eastern armies in the field so as to cover the Capital, and make common head against the enemy then interposed between them and ready to be thrown at will on either. Honest differences of opinions of able generals existed as to the best measures to be adopted to accomplish the desired end, which it is unnecessary here to re-discuss; and the brief limits of this sketch will not permit our following in detail the after reverses and glories of the magnificent Army of the Potomac, nor the brilliant triumphs of the transcendent leaders whom Halleck had left in the West. Suffice it to say that the General-in-Chief entered upon the duties of his high office with heart and soul devoted to the preservation of the Union, and gave the utmost of his eminent abilities, indomitable energy, and unremitting industry to his country's cause. Often compelled to assume responsibilities which belonged to others, constantly having to thwart the purposes of selfish schemers, and always constrained to be reticent upon public affairs which many desired to have divulged, Halleck, like all men in high stations in times of trial, soon became a target for the shafts of the envious, the disloyal, and the disappointed. Doubtless with scant time for the most mature reflection, he made errors; but, says Turenne, the great marshal of an age of warriors, "Show me the commander who has never made mistakes, and you will show me one who has never made war." The time may yet come when the seal of secrecy will be removed and Halleck's correspondence during the Rebellion given to the world. Then justice will be done; then will be understood why the lion-hearted Lincoln, the stern Stanton, and those responsible for the conduct of the war, reposed unbounded confidence in him; and then will be revealed the pure patriot, the skillful strategist, the learned lawyer, the sterling statesman, and the valiant vindicator of the Nation's honor.

Congress, in recognition of Grant's glorious campaigns of Vicksburg and Chattanooga, revived the grade of Lieutenant-General. Though a desire was manifested in high places in some way to retain Halleck in the performance of his high functions, he at once insisted that compliance should be made with the obvious intentions of the law, and that being senior in rank, Grant must necessarily be the General-in-Chief. However, Halleck remained at Washington from March 12, 1864, to April 19, 1865, as Chief-of-Staff of the army, under the orders of the Secretary of War and the General-in-Chief, performing much of the same duties as before had devolved upon him at headquarters.

Halleck, from April 22 to July 1, 1865, was in command of the military division of the James, with headquarters at Richmond. It was while here that he issued an order to certain officers "to pay no regard to any truce or orders of General Sherman respecting hostilities, on the ground that Sherman's agreement could bind his own command only, and no other" and "to push onward, regardless of orders from any one except General Grant, and cut off Johnson's retreat." The responsibility for this order Halleck, in a well-written letter, asserted was not his but his superiors, and that he had

not trespassed upon Sherman's departmental command. However, it produced great coolness between these distinguished men, but long since the breach was healed, and mutual confidence restored between these old friends.

Upon the termination of hostilities and the disbandment of the volunteer forces, Halleck was ordered to the Military Division of the Pacific, of which he took command August 30, 1865, and March 16, 1869, was transferred to that of the South, which he retained till his death. It is unnecessary to say that both at San Francisco and Louisville he ably, energetically, and economically carried out the requirements of the Government. The satisfaction he gave in his late command, cannot be better expressed than in the words of an intelligent observer residing at Louisville, who says in a private note, "of all the men who have been in command here, General Halleck was the best liked. He was not only a good soldier, but a statesman and a gentleman, and I am thoroughly convinced that, if there had been a Halleck in command of every department in the south and southwest, we would long since have ceased to hear of outrages consequent upon the 'late unpleasantness.'"

Halleck, with few advantages in early life, and hardly the rudiments of a classical education, overcame all obstacles in his path by the power of mind and character. He took at once an honor place at West Point; was a conspicuous officer of engineers; became a youthful statesman in the creation of a State; rose to the direction of various public trusts; established an envied reputation for high authorship; was a prominent publicist among learned jurists; and held supreme command of vast armies in a great struggle for a nation's existence. It is unnecessary to describe each of these segments of his fame, or in language build monuments to his mental vigor and distinguished deeds achieved, without extraordinary leaps, in a long and steady race of usefulness. Like the eagle's strength, his is to be measured not only by his height of place, but his continuance on the wing.

Halleck had a strong, clear intellect, which enabled him to take a comprehensive grasp of the various important matters presented to his consideration, and was sustained in his conclusions by a most assiduous industry and self-reliant perseverance. Indeed, determination was his most marked characteristic, evinced in a calm firmness which neither entreaty nor persuasion could move from its fixed purpose. Of such a nature caution would be a prevailing quality. With these was united a modesty almost shyness, and thus perhaps he did himself injustice, as his sensitiveness to the value of sincerity caused him often to repel rather than be deemed insincere. This known temperament secured him the most valuable estimation of his instructed and ablest fellow officers. His dryness of manner was no argument of want of heart, for indeed he was a warm, true, loyal friend, and in the inner circle of his life was tender and playful, showing a keen sense of humor. His home was a scene of perfect happiness and kind hospitality. Of children he was fond; had an ardent love of Nature, and indulged the expectation of closing his latter hours in a retreat in the beautiful region south of San Francisco looking on the Pacific Ocean. Though far hence life's silver cord was loosed, its crowning act was his open acknowledgement of the source of all his strength; and his last hours closed with sweet remembrances of cherished friends, among whom the writer of this is happy to be numbered, for he well knew his departed comrade's great worth, and truly loved him.

G. W. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

The Charleston (S. C.) News reports that forty-nine Ku-Klux prisoners, sentenced at the recent term of the United States Circuit Court, held in Columbia, arrived in that city January 24 under a guard of United States soldiers. Twenty-five of them were carried to jail, where they are to serve out their imprisonment, and the other twenty-four left in the steamship *Charleston*, hence for New York, en route to the prison at Auburn, although it was reported that they were going to Albany, which was caused by a mistake in the transportation order. Those that were incarcerated in jail were conducted there by Captain Dennis and a detachment of the Third Artillery, and those that took the steamer by Lieutenant Potter, with a detachment from the Eighteenth Infantry. The majority, indeed nearly all of them, were very young men, some headless youths, whose faces reflected anything but those elements that make up intelligent conspirators.

The *Charleston* arrived at New York January 26 from Charleston, having on board the twenty-four convicted Ku-Klux prisoners referred to. The sentences vary from one year to five, with fines from \$100 to \$1,000. They were confined in a bulkhead in the forward part of the ship, which had been temporarily fitted up for their accommodation. They were all apparently white men, but are described as a most forlorn, woe-begone, haggard-looking crew. They were taken on to Albany on the day of their arrival.

Sixteenth Infantry.—Brevet Major G. Pennypacker, colonel of the Sixteenth, has been visiting General Hart-rauft, Auditor-General of Pennsylvania, at his residence at Lochiel, Penn. A friend of General Pennypacker writes that "it is understood by his friends that he has decided not to be a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination of the State of Pennsylvania, although he has been very prominently named for the position by both the press and the people of both the republican and democratic parties, preferring his present position in the Army. He is now at his home at West Chester, Pa., on a year's leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability, in consequence of his severe wounds."

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan: Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Acting Assistant Surgeon C. E. McChesney, U. S. Army, January 24, with permission to apply to headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, on condition of his providing medical attendance satisfactory to his post commander, without expenses to the United States. S. O. No. 10, D. D.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

The Omaha papers dwell with unction upon the brilliant gatherings which resulted from the visit of the

Grand Duke Alexis to that city and vicinity. The principal event was a dinner given by Governor Saunders, at which the following guests were present among others: The Grand Duke Alexis and party, Lieutenant-General Philip Sheridan, General E. O. C. Ord, Colonel Forsythe, Colonel Sheridan, General George D. Ruggles, Colonel Terrill, General Barriger, Captain Jones, and other military gentlemen. Toward the close of the banquet a party of ladies in an adjoining room gave token of the "near presence of the fair of Omaha" by dropping into music, "in which the best voices in Omaha joined with a piano accompaniment." At the close of the entertainment the guests adjourned to another room, and the ladies and others were presented to the Duke. The *Omaha Herald* informs us, in the felicitous terms characteristic of the reportorial gentlemen, that "during all this time great curiosity was manifested to see Sheridan, who divided the honors with the Duke. It was hard to bring him to 'the front,' because he was buried in what General Ord, who has a keen eye to beauty, aptly called 'a beautiful bouquet of flowers' in a corner of the room, that, from their numerosity, he succeeded in making inaccessible. It was not until the chief throngs had disappeared that, with Mrs. O. P. Hurford on his arm, he consented to gratify the public wish to take him by the hand." The Lieutenant-general is thus photographed: "When he is engaged in animated conversation his face appears round and smooth, but when left to himself hard lines appear in his countenance, drawn by time and service, and we notice that his hair is here and there touched with gray. He is small—not nearly so large as the Duke beside him—but square built, broad-shouldered, and with a full chest."

The same paper gives us, among the incidents of the hunt, the following: "Colonel Mike Sheridan's horse failed him before the hunt was over, and had to be led to the camp. The animal rode by General Custer died soon after reaching camp, from hard riding, having traveled over fifty miles during the day's hunt. Buffalo Bill was presented by the Duke with a large purse of money and a very valuable scarf pin, in acknowledgment of his services on this occasion."

General Sheridan complimented Captain James Egan for the discipline, efficiency, and good order maintained in his troop, and thanked him, in the name of his party, for the valuable assistance rendered them in conducting the hunt to a successful issue.

Sixth Cavalry.—Surgeon W. O. Taylor, U. S. Army, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, January 23, was ordered to Kansas City, Mo., to await the arrival at that place of the two companies of the Sixth Cavalry under orders to proceed to Memphis, Tennessee, and upon their arrival to report to the senior officer for duty with the detachment. First Lieutenant Adam Kramer, June 24, was relieved from duty as member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Scott, Kansas, by paragraph 3, S. O. No. 10, c. s., from headquarters Department of Missouri, and ordered to join his company.

Eighth Cavalry, Fort Union, N. M.—In R. O. No. 8, Colonel J. Irvin Gregg, commanding this regiment, says:

In view of the numerous applications of troop commanders for the promotion and appointment of non-commissioned officers in this regiment, the following rules will hereafter be observed:

Private soldiers will not be recommended by their troop commanders for promotion to the rank of corporal until they will have served at least six months as lance corporal, and are found to be fully competent to discharge the duties devolving upon them in their advanced grade; and, in like manner, corporals will not be recommended for promotion to the rank of sergeant until they will have served at least six months as lance sergeant, and are deemed fully qualified to discharge the duties of full sergeant.

All recommendations for promotions to the different grades of non-commissioned officers will hereafter set forth the above requirements, and will also give a history of the soldier so recommended, during his term of service in the regiment, and such additional information as can be authentically obtained regarding his previous character and services in the Army. Applications that do not conform with the above rules will be returned, not favorably considered. No appointments of non-commissioned officers in troops detached from regimental headquarters will be made after the 15th of each month. A General Order confirming the appointment and promotion of non-commissioned officers will be published by the regimental commander on the 15th of each muster month.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, to take effect when, in the opinion of his post commander, his services can best be spared, was granted Second Lieutenant Charles E. Slade, Fifteenth Infantry, January 23.

Fort Hays, Kansas, W. B. Hazen, colonel Sixth Infantry, commanding.—From this post General Hazen has addressed to Mr. Henry Bergh, president of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the following plea in behalf of the fast disappearing buffaloes.

DEAR SIR: Hoping to interest you, and through you the people of the country and Congress, I would respectfully state that the extraordinary introduction of railroads into and across the wilds of our country has made the vast herds of wild buffalo of the Plains accessible to all classes of people, and each year vast numbers are slaughtered for so-called sport, and a greater number by hunters for their hides, which net about one dollar. I have seen numbers of men this winter who have the past season killed 1,000 each for the paltry sum of a dollar apiece, the carcasses being left to rot on the Plains! The buffalo is a noble and very valuable animal, timid, and as easily taken as a cow, and very valuable as food for man. It lives upon a short grass, which grows luxuriantly upon the high, arid plains of this middle region, that is, from dryness, unfit for agriculture. The theory that the buffalo should be killed to deprive the Indians of food is a fallacy, as these people are becoming harmless under a rule of justice. In view of these facts, I would most earnestly request that you use such proper influences as may be at your disposal to bring this subject before Congress with the intention of having such steps taken as will prevent this wicked and wanton waste, both of the lives of God's creatures and the valuable food they furnish. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN.

Colonel Sixth Infantry, Brevet Major-General U. S. Army.

Fort Selden, N. M.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Selden, N. M., on the 5th day of February. Detail for the court: Captain J. M. Williams, Eighth Cavalry; Captains Charles Steelhammer and J. H. Stewart, Fifteenth Infantry; Captains A. B. Wells and E. G. Feschet, Eighth Cavalry; First Lieutenant M. P. Buffum and Second Lieutenant John Little, Fifteenth Infantry. Judge-advocate, Captain Chambers McKibben, Fifteenth Infantry.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.

Fort Duncan, Texas.—A correspondent writes, N. yem-

ber 14, as follows from Eagle Pass, near this fort, where are stationed Companies F and I of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, K of the Twenty-fourth Infantry and L of the Ninth Cavalry: "For the last seven days we have been journeying slowly through Texas, impeded by the rains and roads, and reached the Rio Grande, at this place yesterday. I have been able to sleep in a house every night, though sometimes on the floor. It was a very monotonous journey, the only incident being our arrival at a lonely station on the prairie, where a man came out and asked if either of us knew anything about sewing machines. His 'old woman' had one that would not go. As we wanted to rest our horses I got out and put the machine in order, while the aforesaid old woman sat by and smoked a clay pipe. The country, though good so far as soil goes, is uncultivated and bare, the people are poor and the few towns mostly dirty. Eagle Pass is no exception to the rule. It is built of stone plastered with mud and mostly thatched with grass. Still, being on the frontier and a port of entry, it is prosperous and growing. Across the river is Pietros Negro, a precisely similar town on Mexican soil. It looks for all the world like some of those old shabby Italian towns, and the resemblance goes further. The dark skinned Mexicans go about, the women with bright colored shawls over their heads, the children with a similar garment made of pieces of calico sewn together like patchwork, and even the men have a fondness for blankets. To see a store full of these people reminds me very much of an Italian market place. The Mexicans have a revolution of course on hand and the country opposite is in the hands of the insurgents."

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General Geo. G. Meade: *Inspector, Philadelphia.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

Headquarters, New York. Brigadier-General Irvin McDowell

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending January 30, 1872: Captain Wm. Dickinson, U. S. Army; Captain A. Peper, Third Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel Pinckney Lugenbeel, First Infantry; Captain R. L. Morris, Eighteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant A. C. Bayne, U. S. Army; Captain S. C. Lyford, Ordnance Corps; Captain R. N. Scott, Third Artillery; First Lieutenant C. H. Rotter, Eighteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. H. Todd, Eighteenth Infantry; Major Wm. Hays, Fifth Artillery.

Fifth Artillery.—The leave of absence for seven days granted Captain H. F. Brewerton, in Orders No. 2, headquarters Fort Preble, Me., January 24, has been extended twenty days, with permission to apply for a further extension of two months.

Leave of absence for twenty-three days was granted First Lieutenant B. K. Roberts January 27.

Eighth Infantry.—Leave of absence for fifteen days, to take effect January 29, has been granted First Lieutenant F. A. Whitney.

Eighteenth Infantry.—So soon as relieved from the duty assigned them in paragraph 2, S. O. No. 6, headquarters Post of Columbia, S. C., First Lieutenant Carroll H. Potter, Eighteenth Infantry, and the detachment under his command, was ordered January 29 to return to Columbia, S. C.

Fort Monroe.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Monroe, Va., on the 30th of January. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Roberts and Captain Richard Loder, Fourth Artillery; Captain S. S. Elder, First Artillery; Captain E. R. Warner, Third Artillery; First Lieutenant C. C. McConnell, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant J. B. Burbank and Second Lieutenant A. T. Abbott, Third Artillery; Second Lieutenant E. S. Curtis, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant John Simpson, Fourth Artillery. First Lieutenant E. P. Newkirk, Fourth Artillery, is appointed judge-advocate.

Fort Mifflin, Md.—A General Court-martial has been appointed to meet at Fort Mifflin, Md., on the 1st of February. Detail for the court: Captains M. P. Miller and H. C. Hasbrouck, Fourth Artillery; Assistant Surgeon E. Cones, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants Arthur Morris and J. B. Hazelton, Second Lieutenants H. M. Jones and E. S. Chapin, Fourth Artillery. First Lieutenant J. W. Roder, adjutant, is appointed judge-advocate.

Burial of General Halleck.—The *Herald* thus describes the funeral services over the grave of General Halleck, to which we briefly alluded last week:

The relatives advanced and stood near the heap of fresh soil that had been thrown up. The officiating clergyman—who also performed the funeral services at Louisville, the Rev. Dr. Wyatt—stood at the head of the grave, wearing the solemn black robes of his office with a white scarf. He is the minister of the Church of the Holy Communion, in California, at which General Halleck used to attend when living on the Pacific Slope. Every head was uncovered as the coffin was placed on the slender bars of wood that were laid across the gaping mouth of the grave. A cross of white flowers lay upon the lid, placed there by the dead soldier's comrades. On the further side stood Major-General McDowell in uniform, and near Mr. Hamilton, the venerable Major-General Casey, of the Mexican War, whose head has grown white as snow in the service of his country, to whose military he has given a valuable system of tactics. The other officers present were Brevet Major-General J. B. Fry, General Jefferson C. Davis, General Barnard, General James B. Troy, General Callum, Colonel J. Mac. L. Taylor, Colonel Robert N. Scott, Colonel S. C. Lyford. Master Aleck Halleck stood by the side of his mother.

After a moment of silence the minister began the simple and beautiful burial service of the Episcopal Church of England, with solemn and tender tones, which thrilled through every heart. "In the midst of life we are in death." Then followed the touching prayers, the Gospel and the Lord's Prayer, with the close, "Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God in His wise providence to take out of this world the soul of our deceased brother, we therefore commit his body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." The sexton at the words sprinkled the handful of earth upon the coffin.

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all evermore. Amen." Then the mortal remains of one of our great generals were slowly lowered down into the grave, and the mourners turned lingeringly away as the first heavy clouds were tumbling in upon the coffin by the four sturdy grave-diggers, who had stepped forward with shovels in their hands, and dressed in blue frocks.

The burial was of the most quiet character. It lacked the usual

military honors that are paid to so worthy a soldier, but was perhaps not less impressive. Though no martial dirges accompanied the last march, and no loud salutes were fired over the grave, his memory will doubtless not be any the less distinguished nor his rest less peaceful.

DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

First Infantry.—A General Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Wayne, Michigan, January 26, instant, with the following detail from this regiment: Captains R. H. Offley, and Kinzie Bates; First Lieutenants D. F. Callinan, John Tyler, regimental quartermaster, H. R. Jones, and Allen Smith, adjutant; Second Lieutenant J. Sumner Rogers. Second Lieutenant Gilbert S. Jennings, judge-advocate.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Porter, New York, at ten o'clock, A. M., January 30. Detail for the court: Captain R. E. Johnston, First Infantry; Assistant Surgeon J. E. Semple, U. S. Army; Captain W. N. Tisdall, First Lieutenant F. M. Lynde, and Second Lieutenant R. G. Armstrong, First Infantry. First Lieutenant F. E. Pierce, judge-advocate of the court.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE U. S. steamer *Worcester*, the flagship of the North Atlantic fleet, dropped down to the compass buoys at Fort Monroe, January 31, to swing ship. She will sail in a day or two for the West Indies.

A DESPATCH from Havana January 30 reports that the Spanish gunboat *Atulio* has captured an English schooner and crew. The schooner was towed to Manzanillo. It is reported that the schooner had already landed contraband of war on the island when captured.

ORDERS were received at the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy-yard Monday, January 21, to put the masts, etc., into the steamer *Tuscarora*. The examination into the cause of the recent fire at the hospital has revealed no clue as to who the incendiary was.

MANY of the crew of the U. S. steamer *Marion*, which arrived at Portsmouth Navy-yard a short time since, were discharged from the Navy the previous week, their term of enlistment having expired. The men remaining have been transferred to the receiving ship *Vandalia*.

THE House Committee on Appropriations have concluded the Naval Appropriation Bill, which appropriates \$18,000,000, about \$1,400,000 less than last year. Of the total amount \$6,500,000 is for the pay of the officers and seamen, and the remainder for the various navy-yards and bureaus.

THE Farragut prize cases have been referred, by consent of counsel, to a board of arbitration, consisting of W. H. Payne, of Boston; Thomas J. Durand, of New York; and G. A. Fox, ex-Assistant Secretary of the Navy, with the understanding that the parties may appeal from the decision of the board to the Supreme Court of the United States. Captain Fox has been obliged to decline the appointment, because of a press of private business.

A BALL was given at Havana on Wednesday evening January 17, on board of Her Britannic Majesty's corvette *Niobe*, by her commander, Sir Lampton Lorraine, and his officers. The ship's quarter deck was decorated with the flags of all nations, flowers and evergreens. The dancing commenced at eight o'clock and was kept up until four in the morning, only interrupted by supper. The attendance of foreign officers was quite large. Among those noted as present were Consul General Torbert and Mrs. Torbert, Commander W. P. McKann, of the *Nipsic*, and wife; Commander Chester Hatfield, United States steamer *Kansas*, and a number of other American, French and Spanish officers.

THE *Canadaigua*, third rate (10), which has been repairing at New York, and was reported ready for sea, has been delayed by an order from the Navy Department for the substitution of a two-bladed screw for the four-bladed one originally placed on the ship. This alteration has been made, and the ship is now coaling preparatory to sailing on the 10th of February, when she will leave this port for Lisbon, Portugal, and thence proceed to Nice, France, and report to Rear-Admiral James Alden, commanding the European fleet. Orders to this effect have been received by Rear-Admiral Smith. The *Canadaigua* is commanded by Captain Egbert Thompson.

ON the *Vermont*, receiving ship, stationed at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, a pleasant entertainment was given Saturday evening, January 27, to the six hundred Jack Tars who are here for the purpose of transshipment to vessels now cruising in the South Atlantic. The entertainment consisted of glees from the Orpheus Glee Club and readings and recitations by Miss Julia Griffen. The chaplain of the vessel, the Rev. Mr. Kane, next narrated his experience in serving out the grog, and how rum-loving tars used to double on the tub and get surreptitiously more tots than were correctly their due. On the conclusion of the entertainment the sailors set up a loud call for "Scottie," who gave an Irish song, "The Private Still." The Glee Club closed the entertainment by singing the "Three Black Crows." A big bucket was then produced, and set on top of the organ, but only \$2 were collected toward the expense of the music.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York *Herald*, writing from Rio Janeiro under date of December 25, 1871, thus mentions the absence of naval vessels in South American waters: "Again, we are without the presence of any American Naval vessel. It certainly is incomprehensible to the Americans here, and justly and reasonably."

bly occasions disappointment, that with so many men-of-war about and with so large a squadron in European waters and the North Atlantic, that only one vessel can be spared to attend to the South American coasts, from Para to Cape Horn, and also the southeast coast of Africa. The condition of affairs at Montevideo, in the Uruguayan republic, necessitates the continual presence of one or more efficient vessels there, and the small vessel *Wasp* is doing good service on the Rio la Plata. There is, then, only one other vessel to visit the ports of Brazil, the Falkland Islands and the Cape of Good Hope. There is no other station with such an extended coast line; there is no other station where the presence of three or four American vessels of war is more needed, and it is only a matter of simple propriety and equal and just distribution that the American naval squadron in these waters should be speedily and materially augmented. Until within a few days five English vessels of war, two French, three Russian and two German were at anchor here. Now there are two English, one French, two Russian and one German, and not one United States ship."

THE following officers were stationed at the Navy-yard, Brooklyn, N. Y., January 23, 1872: Rear-Admiral M. Smith, commandant; Captains J. M. Ransom, Edward Barrett; Commanders R. Chandler, D. L. Braine, M. Haxton, M. Sear, W. D. Whiting; Lieutenant-Commanders E. Hooker, A. V. Reed, H. B. Robeson, G. C. Schulze; Medical Directors S. Jackson, T. M. Potter, A. A. Henderson; Medical Inspector G. Peck; Past Assistant Surgeons J. H. Kidder, D. C. Murtrie, E. Kerschner, J. B. Parker; Assistant Surgeon W. M. Nickerson; Pay Directors J. C. Eldridge, C. J. Emory; Assistant Paymasters W. W. Barry, J. E. Cann; Chief Engineers W. W. Wood, George Sewell, Theodore Zeller, E. S. De Luce; First Assistant Engineers A. V. Fraser, E. Olson, A. W. Morley, B. F. Wood, W. W. Heaton; Chaplain D. McLaren; Naval Constructor B. F. Delano; Assistant Naval Constructor W. L. Minton; Civil Engineer Norman Stratton; Boatswains T. G. Bell, R. Dixon, A. M. Pomeroy, C. Johnson; Gunners T. P. Venable, W. Carter, J. Rogers; Acting Gunner M. J. Dutcher; Carpenter W. D. Toy; Mate A. J. Morehouse.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* thus refers to a rumor affecting the sacredness of English naval tradition: "A Naval Officer" has informed our contemporary, the *Standard*, that the walls of Portsmouth were placarded last week with the notice that Nelson's old flagship the *Victory* was about to be sold. Another correspondent of the same paper has since contradicted the statement. We have reason to believe, however, that the 'Naval Officer' was correct, and that the fate of the *Victory* has been for some time in suspense. If our information is correct, the idea of the Admiralty is to retain some memorial of the old ship, but they are at a loss to know how to dispose of the whole. We wonder if the enterprising American who offered to purchase the Vendome Column of the late Commune of Paris could be got to look at this bargain if Nelson's coat and sword and a few of the old flags from Chelsea hospital and St. Paul's were thrown in! What is the use of our national relics if they have no market value? and if they are worth anything, why should we not proceed to realize? By all means take advantage of the opportunity when the *Victory* is sold to turn some of the old properties into cash, have a clearing sale at the Tower itself, and when the *Victory* sails for her new moorings let the bones of Nelson himself go with her.

THE steamer *Hornet* arrived at Baltimore on Friday last, January 26, in advance of her convoy the U. S. steamer *Congress*, from which she was separated by bad weather the first night at sea, and the *Hornet* being a very fast sailer outran the *Congress*. The trip from Port-au-Prince was a very rough one. The *Hornet* was formerly known as the *Lady Sterling*, and was during the war one of the most successful of blockade runners. In October, 1869, she was fitted up as a ship of war in the Cuban service, to operate in their war for independence, but was seized by the Government at Wilmington, N. C., kept for some time and finally released. She then had a fine armament of seven guns, all rifled Parrotts. She is over two hundred and fifty feet long, and her speed is fifteen or sixteen knots an hour. After her release by the Government she was fitted for the cruise that resulted in her detention by the Spanish authorities.

The *Hornet* left New York December 8, 1870, for Nassau, where she arrived on the 14th for coal; but she was not allowed to take in coal there, and left at once for Port-au-Prince where she arrived on the 17th, and took coal, and then left for Aspinwall. There she took on board a small cargo of arms and ammunition for the Cubans, and left that port for Punta Brava, Cuba, where she arrived and landed her cargo. Her boilers needing some repairs she put into Port-au-Prince January 10, 1871. A few days after her arrival the Spanish man-of-war *Isabella Catolica* appeared and demanded of the Haytian Government her delivery as a private. This being refused the Spanish men-of-war *Pizarro*, *Churruco*, and *Zaragosa*, together with the one first named, kept up a blockade almost within gunshot of the *Hornet*, and at night put out armed launches around her. January 4, the United States frigate *Congress* left New York for Port-au-Prince where she arrived January 14, but the Spanish men-of-war had been notified of what was going on, and quietly steamed away a few days before the *Congress* came. Some little trouble was experienced in getting a crew, but one was finally obtained, and on the morning of the 18th at five o'clock the *Hornet*, under the protection of the *Congress*, steamed away from her moorings, where she had been under Spanish guns for one year and eight days. Before leaving Port-au-Prince Lieutenant C. T. Arnold, of the *Congress*, was placed on board the *Hornet*, with instructions that should she be molested by a Spanish man-of-war to take possession of her in the name of the United States, and protest against any interference with her in any manner whatever.

CAPTAIN HOSKINSON, R. N., says: "Water put in motion by the force of wind is a gigantic power, and infinitely greater than the power of the wind itself, for the density of water is to air as 850 to 1. Let Sir John Hay only reflect upon the force acting upon the base of the Eddystone Lighthouse, caused by the action of the sea, put in motion by the strength of the wind, and the power of the same gale of wind acting upon the surface of the glass placed to protect the light. Sir John Hay is not ignorant of the fact that the *Glutton*, from her great weight and deep immersion, cannot be expected to rise in a seaway, but that the sea will make a clean sweep over her. I don't wish to discourage any prudent experiments, but there are certain experiments that it would be madness to carry out, in the face of our present knowledge of the dangers to be encountered. To say that because we have done one foolish act once, and escaped with impunity, we may continue to do again and again such foolish acts, is no answer to the question. The pitcher repeatedly sent to the well is broken at last. In war time, risks may be run to obtain a great end, but in peace time it is not justifiable to stake all upon the chance of an escape. Sir John Hay has evidently not read the court-martial upon the loss of the *Captain* with much attention, for it is there clearly shown that neither Captain Coles nor Captain Burgoyne would, or could, see the danger they were incurring by carrying on canvas to the extent they did; especially while moving so slowly through the water, and with the yards braced so sharply up; moreover, neither of these officers seemed to be in the least aware of the fact that a force which, if applied steadily, would hold a ship inclined at a certain definite angle, would, if applied to the ship suddenly, incline her to double that angle, and yet the knowledge of this fact is as old as the hills. The *Captain* was proved to incline steadily 12 deg. or 14 deg., when Admiral Sir Alexander Milne was on board, 14 deg. brought the gunwale on a level with the water; an inclination of double of either of these angles in a sudden squall, and the ship must be lost. In fact," Captain Hoskinson says in conclusion, "the evidence taken before the court-martial conclusively proves that the *Captain* was coached to her grave; every error was committed that could possibly be committed, from the moment the specification for the construction of the vessel was accepted and the contract signed to the moment that she was lost. It was not one fault, but a series of faults that was committed. So demonstrative and so gross are they that it is marvellous to think of the low standard of knowledge displayed, and fully justifies my impression upon Mr. Goschen the necessity of establishing a steam-record department at the Admiralty, totally unconnected with the constructive department, and whose duty it should be to analyze with care all experiments, and lay before the board of Admiralty a correct statement of facts."

TORPEDO NOTES.

Broad Arrow reports that Captain Harvey will shortly proceed to Italy on the invitation of the Government of Victor Emmanuel, to instruct the naval department in all that pertains to the construction and use of his torpedo in the open seas. In a letter to the *Army and Navy Gazette* Captain Harvey says: "The problem of the sea torpedo has not yet been solved in right good earnest, nor will it be, I am inclined to think, till war shall arise between maritime States that are prepared for, and practised in the management of, torpedoes in combat upon the ocean. Experiments have been made, and the results have been such as to warrant a belief that torpedoes for sea service can be manufactured of great destructive capabilities, and of a form that admits of their being used effectively under conditions that would probably obtain upon the ocean, which would embrace rough weather—rough treatment. Torpedoes adapted to such service, charged, as they would be, by some one of the various powerful explosives now known, would, I confidently believe, baffle the strongest navigable vessel that can be constructed. Skill in the management of the sea torpedo is a condition that is essential to its effective application; but the skill required is such that a sailor can soon acquire, as has been shown in the experiments I have conducted, or at which I have been present. With regard to the sinking of a fast, handy torpedo vessel by being run into by a comparatively unwieldy ram, I believe it to be impracticable. The ram must, to run down the torpedo vessel, go at her head on, the very position the torpedo vessel would desire to bring her torpedo into effective collision. When we become better acquainted with the violent action of explosives that can be safely used in torpedoes, it is quite possible the violent force of such explosives, in practicable quantities, may be sufficiently great to shake the side of an iron-clad, at a depth of only two or three feet below the surface of the water as to render her unseaworthy. Some maritime States are constructing vessels expressly for the service of torpedoes: such a course is, I think, judicious, as much skill and labor that have been, and are now being wasted, may be profitably employed."

"When the navy estimates for 1872-73 are laid upon the table of the House of Commons," remarks the *London Times* in a paragraph with the heading of "The Navy of the Future," "we understand it is very probable that they will be found to contain provision for the construction of a vessel the armament of which will consist of torpedo artillery carried below the water line. Some time since trials were made with the Whitehead Fish Torpedo, under conditions entered into between the inventor and the Government of his country, that if the torpedo proved to be as effective upon trial as it was asserted to be by its inventor the latter should receive the sum of £15,000, the Government obtaining the right to the use of the torpedo as part of the national armament. Upon its trial the torpedo exhibited powers exceeding those which had been claimed for it by its inventor, and he received from the Government the sum agreed upon. As it is to further test the torpedo as a new form of sea artillery that the new vessel will be constructed, we may presume that she will, as a test vessel be of very limited dimensions. The facts of the great success which attended the trials of this torpedo,

that the Government has paid so large a sum for it, and that the Admiralty are about to construct a vessel to test its merits as a new form of submarine artillery for our fleets, would appear to indicate that little or no doubt is entertained of its successful application. If it should be found in practical work that a ship can thus carry her battery of torpedo guns at any required distance below her water-line, or say from seven to twelve feet below her line of flotation, the nation will be committed to another reconstruction of its navy. Armor-plating will have to be extended to ships' bottoms and not cease at their top-sides, while chain cables, coals, provisions, etc., will then, in all seeming probability, have to be stored above the level of the ships' water-line, and in about the positions where she now carries her guns."

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

On January 12, the *London Times* remarks that, although it is expressly provided by the Washington Treaty that each vessel shall be the subject of a separate inquiry, the decision of the arbitrators on the *Alabama* herself must inevitably govern the issue of "the claims generally known as the *Alabama* claims." In all the circumstances of her ill-omened career this famous cruiser fully deserved her evil pre-eminence. These facts appear to be fairly stated in the American case, however invidious the construction which it is sought to put upon them; and some of our readers may be surprised to find how different an aspect they present when divested of the *ex post facto* coloring which has surrounded them for so many years, and simply viewed as they actually occurred. No candid Englishman would deny that on the side of the United States there are some effective points; but they are marred by the eagerness of the draughtsman to prove too much. It is virtually maintained that neutrality is a state with almost unlimited liability, but without any corresponding rights, and that it was incumbent on Great Britain, if she could not see her way to help the United States, at least to insure them absolutely against the acts of British shipbuilders. Of course, if this principle be accepted by the arbitrators as resulting from article 6, Great Britain must submit to its consequences. We cannot, however, bring ourselves to believe that it will be so accepted, and we are sure that if it be, the situation of neutrals, already most trying, will henceforth be well-nigh intolerable.

On January 13, the *Times* is not surprised, considering how severely American commerce suffered during the war, that a stricter view of neutral liabilities than has ever governed the practice of the United States Government should now be adopted by it as against Great Britain. But it is surprised that absolutely no account should be taken in the American case of the prodigious difficulties which must be overcome by any neutral government, and especially by the British Government, before it can suppress illegal equipments. No strain ever put on the neutrality laws of the United States can be compared with that to which England's were subjected. It is not merely that incredible efforts were made by the Confederate Government to evade them; but that, owing to England's manifold shipbuilding transactions, it was impossible to identify a ship as destined for the Confederate service without positive evidence of that fact. Nor can the *Times* help expressing its regret that, although Mr. Adams' despatches frequently obtained acknowledgments of the prompt action taken by the British Government, the scantiest possible recognition is accorded to the American case to instances of its successful interposition, and it is even maintained that no credit at all is due to Great Britain for detaining and purchasing the rams.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE. ORDERED.

JANUARY 24.—Commander B. B. Taylor, as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

Second Assistant Engineer Frederick W. Townrow, to the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

JANUARY 25.—Lieutenant-Commander R. P. Leary, to the Canandaigua.

Passed Assistant Paymaster John R. Carmody, to the Naval Station, New London, Conn.

JANUARY 27.—Midshipman John C. Wilson, to temporary ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

JANUARY 30.—Commander D. B. Harmony, to command the Mohican, per steamer of the 15th February.

Midshipman A. P. Nazro, to the Navy-yard, Boston.

Midshipman James M. Gore, to the Michigan.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 24.—Master D. Delehanly, from the Canandaigua, and ordered to the Nantasket.

JANUARY 25.—Lieutenant-Commander Henry C. Nields, from the Canandaigua, and ordered to the Iroquois.

Master Fredk. G. Hyde, from torpedo duty, and ordered to the Canandaigua.

JANUARY 30.—Commander Wm. W. Low, from the Mohican, and ordered to return home.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States which have been reported to the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Navy and chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending January 27, 1872:

Axel Grundstrom, seaman, December 6, 1871, U. S. steamer Plymouth.

John Grover, marine, January 19, Naval Hospital, Washington.

John E. Parkman, December 19, 1871, secretary, San Francisco, Cal.

GENERAL Garfield has made the statement in the House, on the authority of the Commissioner of Pensions, that one-fourth of the total amount paid to pensioners goes to persons who have got their names upon the pension-rolls by fraud, and who have no right to be there at all. It appears that there is a system of preparing fictitious evidence of disability by claim agents which has succeeded to the enormous extent stated, so that the Treasury is annually depleted of about \$3,000,000 for the benefit of swindlers. The Commissioner of Pensions hopes to unearth many of these frauds, and the miscellaneous appropriation bill contains an appropriation to enable him to make an effort in that direction.

WASHINGTON'S GENERALSHIP.

[From Old and New for February.]

"INDECISION and timidity" were the sole charges urged against Washington by his enemies and his would-be rivals during the war. It was then believed in, even by some of his friends, and is still believed in to a great extent at the present day.

Seen in the full light which history now sheds upon all the events of the war, the only substantial basis for this charge appears to be his uniform practice of referring every important movement to the decision of a council of war, to whose opinion he generally, though not always, deferred, however much it differed from his own.

The fact is beyond question; and it must be admitted to derogate somewhat from that independence of judgment which is an important element of generalship. But it is only just to state, in explanation, that in regard to councils of war, he simply followed the practice of the age; that if he had been selfishly ambitious he would easily have been tempted to a bold venture of everything for the glory he might chance to obtain; but that his pure and lofty conscience as a patriot, which unceasingly oppressed him with the deepest feeling of responsibility, forbade him to risk his small force, upon the preservation of which his country's cause seemed to depend, except in the most urgent cases. We must undoubtedly add to this the natural modesty of the man, and especially his conscious want of a technical knowledge of the art of war, without which even a Napoleon could not feel entire confidence in his own judgment.

Of his audacity when opportunity offered, and of that true military audacity which is not rashness, Trenton and Princeton gave sufficient proof.

Take the most cautious handling of his little force to be found on record, and compare it with McClellan's hesitation and delay at Yorktown with a well-appointed army of one hundred thousand men, and calling for forty thousand more; and if Washington's conduct was timid and undecided, what language will furnish a word expressive enough to characterize the conduct of McClellan?

Of Washington's strategy there is not much to be said; simply because, apart from the difficulty of achieving any important strategic success with so small a force, the enemy enemy scarcely ever ventured to take the field; and as, with their command of the water, their lines of supply and of re-enforcement could never be even threatened, they rarely gave him an opportunity of practicing that wonderful art which teaches how to win campaigns, sometimes without even fighting a battle. When such an opportunity, however, was actually offered, we have seen how quickly and promptly and boldly he availed himself of it. The little campaign of Princeton was strategically as brilliant, though on a smaller scale, as the famous campaign of Marengo; and would have been as decisive in its results, had Washington had a force large enough to await the enemy at Princeton, and there beat him in battle, as Napoleon was able to do at Marengo. The decisive movement in both campaigns was the same—the sudden massing of the principal force on the enemy's rear, thereby threatening his communications with his base. The attack at Princeton made Cornwallis fall back to Brunswick; and the admirably strategic position that Washington so promptly took up on Morristown Heights completed the success of the campaign, by compelling the enemy to abandon their march upon Philadelphia.

To the question, What did Washington accomplish? the answer is that from 1775 to 1781, with a force always inferior to the enemy in numbers, and still more so in efficiency, he succeeded in keeping them shut up in cities and in prolonging the war until the French reinforcements enabled him to end it by the capture of their principal army; and that during all this time the enemy had the great strategic advantage of a numerous fleet which gave them the command of all the water communications.

The inference we venture to draw from the facts stated is this: Weighing the results obtained by him, in connection with the means at his control, Washington loses nothing in comparison with the most illustrious commanders in history; and if the true test of generalship be a wise choice of objects, and the use of the best means to effect them, he may be justly ranked among the great generals of the world.

A VERY full and interesting description appeared in the *London Times* of January 11, of one of the new iron forts designed for the defence of Spithead, which will rise out of the water about 2,000 yards from Ryde Sands, on the shoal called Ne-Man's Land, and will have for its consort a similar fort erected on the Horse Sand Shoal, about 3,500 yards from Southsea. The only deep channel will thus be included in the space of about 2,000 yards, included between the two forts, by which it will be completely commanded. It is calculated that their guns will be capable of piercing twelve inches of armor at 2,000 yards' distance. The fort now ready for erection covers a circle the diameter of which is 200 feet. The foundation prepared for it rises out of the sea to about sixteen feet above high-water mark. From this platform the iron wall of the fort will ascend to a uniform height of twenty-six feet, and above this, covering the gun tiers, there will be a bomb-proof roof, which, however, will not be extended so as to cover the enclosed circular space.

THE body of Frederick Vort, a discharged soldier of the Regular Army, was found January 30 lying in the yard attached to the residence of Mr. B. F. Robinson, near Ridgewood, Long Island. The body was naked and the clothing lying beside as if he had undressed and gone to bed. The man is thought to have been crazy. He had been discharged at Fort Wayne, and had been in Ridgewood since Saturday. Checks for his baggage upon the Erie Railway were found upon his clothing.

BIRTH.

McELROY.—At Canton, Ohio, December 31, 1871, to Emma M., wife of Wm. McElroy, late of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, a son, FRANK MOWER.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of 75 cents each.]

VIELE—MINER.—At Cincinnati, Ohio, January 10, 1872, by Rev. Mr. Yocom, at the residence of the bride's father, Captain CHARLES D. VIELE, Tenth Cavalry, to NANNIE D., eldest daughter of John D. Miner, Esq.

WILDS—SMITH.—In Kennebunk, Maine, January 1, by Rev. Walter E. Darling, Lieutenant-Commander FRANK WILDS, U. S. Navy, to LUCY A., daughter of Robert Smith, Jr.

CARMODY—ETHRIDGE.—On the morning of January 25, at the residence of the parents of the bride, in New York city, by Rev. David Gregg, Passed Assistant Paymaster JNO. R. CARMODY, U. S. Navy, to Miss MARY, youngest daughter of Hon. Robert Ethridge, of Frankfort, N. Y. (No cards.)

BUSH—BUCHANAN.—At Watertown, Mass., January 21, by the Rev. S. Lowry, Captain JOSEPH BUSH, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, to Miss ANSIE H. BUCHANAN, of Somerville, Mass. (No cards.)

DIED.

ROBERTS.—At Fort Monroe, Va., January 19, 1872, ELIZABETH MARY, daughter of General Joseph and A. C. Roberts, aged one month and twenty-seven days.

INFORMATION WANTED OF MICHAEL CALLAGHAN, who left Boston, in the Spring of 1866 or 1868, and was last heard from, had enlisted in the Regular Army. He is a shoemaker by trade, and about 24 years of age. Information of him will be thankfully received by his brother, JOHN CALLAGHAN, Fort Wadsworth, Dakota Territory, or by JOHN MAHER, No. 137 rear of Beach street, Boston, Mass.

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GENERAL Alexander S. Webb has, since his retirement from the Army, been energetically at work in behalf of the College of the City of New York, of which he is the efficient president. The college is forming a cabinet of natural history, and General Webb calls on his old Army friends to contribute specimens. The collections are in the care of Professor John C. Draper, and consist already of a series of corals from the Florida coast, presented by Major McFarland, U. S. Engineers; a collection of 400 species of shells, 1,800 mineralogical and geological specimens, 20 skeletons, 20 separate mammalian crania, 200 botanical specimens, a few stuffed skins, and about 1,500 insects. These collections are employed in the illustration of the course in natural history, and any additions, especially to that in the department of geology, or that of bones and crania, will be most gratefully received and acknowledged.

THE fact that in the receipts for toll on iron, coal, and other raw material, wine, rice, sugar, tobacco, etc., a surplus appears of 1,800,000 thalers over those of any year since the Thirty Years' War, gives a striking proof of the in or financial welfare of Germany.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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THE SPANISH NAVY.

A GOOD deal has been said of the dangers to which this country would be exposed in the event of a sudden rupture with Spain. We are told that the Spanish navy is so numerous and well equipped, and so well appointed likewise in iron-clads, that we should be liable to have our great commercial ports not only blockaded, but laid under heavy contributions, before our Navy could be prepared to cope with the Spanish naval force that would be immediately brought to bear against our sea-coast line. And this we have seen asserted in quarters so much entitled to consideration, that we could but regard the subject as one of supreme concern, considering the extreme delicacy of our relations with Spain. Therefore we have been at some pains to ascertain the exact offensive resources and capacities of the Spanish navy, especially in American waters, and the result is certainly reassuring.

It is true our Navy has been cut down much below what it should be, and its efficiency seriously impaired, by a spirit of economy which is as foreign to true providence as anything can well be. Nevertheless there is no such strength, no such superiority, no such state of preparation as would enable Spain to undertake the offensive, should we unfortunately be drawn into a war with her, as England was many years ago from her obdurate and extreme exercise of the privilege of boarding and searching commercial ships upon the high seas.

Much has been said of her powerful iron-clads, ready to be thrown suddenly upon our coast to bombard and ravage our very metropolis, and destroy our Navy-yards and great workshops, without power on our part to avert such a terrible calamity. The facts, however, do not warrant such apprehensions. At present there are at most only three Spanish iron-clads in Cuban waters. The *Numancia*, *Zaragossa*, and the *Arapiles*. The *Numancia* and *Zaragossa* were constructed in France, before the days of turret ships, with slightly concave sides plated with five inches of iron. Of the two the *Numancia* is the heaviest armed, having twenty-five guns, twenty of which are the ordinary sixty pounders, the other five rifled guns, namely, one 200, two 150, and two 100-pounders. The *Zaragossa* has sixteen 60-pounders, and one 150, and four 100-pounders rifled. The *Arapiles* was built in England upon the model first in vogue there for armored vessels. Her plating is heavier than the French built vessels, but she only carries seventeen guns, five of which we presume are rifled. She is a good vessel of war of her class, and properly handled would be very formidable. The best iron armored vessel, however, is the *Victoria*, which is still in Spain. It, too, was built in England about the same time, and upon the same model as the *Arapiles*, and carries an armament of seven heavy rifled guns and sixteen 60-pounders. Her armor is seven inches thick. The great defect of all these vessels is that their gun-deck is only shielded by an iron veneer not an inch thick.

Besides their four foreign built iron-clads the Spaniards have two of home construction, the *Sagunto* and *Tetuan*, which may be thrown out of consideration, for they have proved so faulty as to be unseaworthy. Of wooden vessels in American waters there are three of a highly respectable class, namely,

the frigates *Almansa*, *Gerona*, and *Concepcion*, the last of which carries twenty 60 and twelve 68 pounders, and the other two each thirty 60 and eighteen 68 pounders. The other vessels of the Spanish-American fleet, with a few exceptions, are not only of a subordinate class, but inferior in all respects.

It must be thus apparent that Spain has no naval resources which would warrant her to essay a *coup de main* upon our coast with the power to inflict any material injury, or more than a transient annoyance. She has not the strength and preparation for a dashing successful offensive. Insolent enough, audacity and naval enterprise of late years have not characterized her operations. The whole Spanish fleet at home and in Cuban waters would be requisite for self-defence. In Cuba alone, exclusive of Porto Rico, there are more than 1,800 miles of sea-coast to be defended and watched. This long littoral is indented with numerous admirable harbors, which, being unfortified, would afford secure harbors and rendezvous for hostile ships, and therefore would have to be held in constant naval observation.

Moreover, there is but one place on the whole island that can be said to be fortified. And the rich ports of Cardenas, Matanzas, Sagua, Cienfuegos, Trinidad, and Santiago de Cuba, are either wholly unfortified or have no works that would bar the passage of a gunboat. And right at the very door of Havana is the bay and superb port of Mariel, which is unfortified, with nothing to hinder its occupation by an enemy, as by the English in 1762, when they made it the base of their operations against Havana, which resulted in its capture. From these facts, coupled with the condition of affairs in Cuba, it must be apparent that Spain is in no condition to inflict either damage or disaster upon us in the event of a sudden conflict, by a resolute offensive use of her naval resources.

Having said thus much to dispel these current unfounded notions about the menacing state of the Spanish navy, we must go further. In England, where the subject of iron-clads has received the most anxious attention, and the greatest efforts have been made to construct invulnerable vessels, there is not one afloat which cannot be penetrated at short range by shot and shell, as is admitted by competent authority. No armored vessel of any description has as yet been built, superior to the destructive power of modern artillery. The improvements in the department of ordnance, including gunpowder as well as guns, have surpassed the means of invulnerability. The best that apparently can be done to combine offensive with defensive power gives a vessel that cannot withstand ordnance already in existence. Nor is this a matter of mere target experiment. Operations in the harbor of Charleston, during our war, demonstrated these facts, as FARRAGUT demonstrated elsewhere, what could still be achieved by wooden ships, thanks to steam, in the hands of a cool, confident, thoroughly bold commander.

And then another terrible weapon of offensive and defensive power against iron-clads, as well as other vessels of war, has come upon the stage. Playing so important a part in the defensive resources of the Confederates against our Navy, since then it has grown to supreme importance in naval warfare. What was achieved by the rude, simply contrived torpedo service of the Confederates, with their petty Davids, show conclusively what may be expected of torpedoes in the next naval war. It was mainly the apprehension of Prussian torpedoes that served utterly to paralyze the French navy, with all its splendid resources.

One fatal defect in iron-clads is that speed, heavy armor, and the heaviest armament cannot be combined in the same vessel. Another is that they offer no defence against the torpedo. These are facts that we need merely state without argument or illustration, and which logically point to the further fact that the construction of armored ships has culminated, and that hereafter the true ship-of-war will be one as fast as powerful machinery can make her—a vessel provided with the heaviest guns modern science can supply. Indeed, we are prepared to accept the conclusions in this connection of a recent thoughtful article of the *Engineer* (English), which we append:

All things considered, we believe that the day for iron-clads has

passed away. That a few will still be used for attacking ports and defending harbors, is almost certain, but these iron-clads will not be in any sense sea-going ships. The ocean battles of the future will, for anything we can see to the contrary, be fought by ships as free from armor as a Cunard steamer. The moment it is demonstrated that armor will not absolutely repel shot, it must be regarded as an objectionable incumbrance. So long as it really fulfills the purpose for which it is intended it confers advantages which are worth obtaining, even at the sacrifice of almost every other qualification a ship-of-war should possess, except the power of fighting heavy guns; but it has been proved, as plainly as any fact can be proved, that such armor as a sea-going ship can carry will not keep out the projectiles of guns of even moderate power, while it leaves the whole question of dealing with submarine attack absolutely unaffected, except in so far as it is a positive evil.

OUR correspondents "E Pluribus Unum," "M.," and "Artillerist" were no doubt surprised last week to find their several communications converted into two part songs, in which the air was dropped by one voice to be taken up vigorously by another, but on a different key. Thus "Artillerist," who on the whole holds very sound views on the subject of Army reorganization, was forced into a seeming endorsement of the communication headed "Pecking at the Staff," and the writer of that communication "E Pluribus Unum" found himself discoursing learnedly upon the occult subject of breech-loaders and muzzle-loaders, and discussing it, too, we feel bound to say, with much more judgment than he did on the question of the position of the JOURNAL on the staff question. "M.," who was really responsible for the article on breech-loaders, was held chargeable with the opinions of "Artillerist" on Army reorganization, with which, however, he would we feel quite sure, fully sympathize.

In reference to the communication of "M.," we may say that this correspondent writes under a great mistake, as is evident. We have never had a Krupp gun in this country. "M.," confounds the Broadwell gun with the Broadwell ring, by which the chief difficulty in the breech-loading guns, the escape of gas, has been effectually overcome—one ring, according to the official Prussian trials, standing 500 rounds. This necessary adjunct has been adopted by KRUPP in his system, which in itself differs materially from the Broadwell breech-loaders.

As the best answer to the communication signed "Bombshell," which we publish this week, we insert in connection with it the report upon the Prussian staff system made to the French Government by M. LE BARON STOFFEL, the French military attaché at the Prussian court. A French colonel certainly is not to be accused of looking upon the Prussian system with partial eyes, and we commend to the imitation of our own officers that wise devotion to truth without prejudice, which so distinguishes the reports of this able, conscientious and courageous soldier. A nation, or even an army of such men would have saved France. Let "Bombshell" note what Colonel STOFFEL says of the thoroughness of the Prussian system of staff education and selection, and answer whether we have seen anything approaching to it in this country, or whether anything like it is provided for in his "Williams" bill.

We do not propose to follow our correspondent through all his propositions; nevertheless it is proper to say that we are at a loss for the source of his narrow definition of what constitutes the staff of armies; for we have never seen it used before with regard to the staff of any service. Even general officers constitute a part of the staff of an army. The department of logistics is not only a staff department, but one in which training, ability and experience are most essential.

In what he says in regard to underrating West Point, "Bombshell" conveniently forgets, in the first place, the fact that barely one-quarter of our Army officers are graduates of West Point, as the Army Register for 1872 will show; and overlooks in the second place the real ground of our criticism of the Williams bill, which is that it ignores the fact that no cadet school, however excellent, can supply that practical training which is so admirably provided for under the Prussian system. To say that any army with such a system of professional instruction as that described by Colonel STOFFEL, offers a field of selection by detail for staff employment absolutely inferior to our own, is an assertion which must proceed from profound misapprehension, and from a strangely exaggerated, mischievous idea of our own system of military education, which, we take occasion to re-

peat, we do not undervalue; it is as good and thorough as any theoretical education ending with the cadet period can possibly be. Nor do we overrate the virtues of the Prussian system, because we call attention to what the comparatively limited scope of our system of military education has done for our own Army. To deny the full merits of the Prussian system of education is virtually to deny the necessity for our own military school.

"Bombshell" fancies apparently that if the existing system is broken up, a proper staff organization will immediately follow, "on the plan of detail from regiments, similar in many respects to the Prussian system." This we regard as a grave mistake. Mere change, without carefully considered measures of construction, which are wanting in the Williams bill, would be to introduce disorganization, not organization. The plan urged is not new. When JEFFERSON DAVIS was Secretary of War, in order to get rid of certain staff officers who were personally abnoxious to him, and to enable him to give staff employment to certain favorites then in the line, he urged Congress to break up our staff system, in the face of the fact that the English staff, after which it was proposed to remodel ours, had just been shown to be signally ineffective in the Crimea, compared with the French system, from which ours had been originally adapted in the main. The aim of Mr. DAVIS was personal, and had in view that luxury of nepotism to which the naked detail system gives so free a scope. But Congress refused to make the change, and Congress acted wisely, for, unless founded very nearly upon the Prussian plan, an impermanent staff organization is not so good as our own with all its defects.

THE following bills of interest to the Army and Navy have been introduced into Congress during the past week, read and referred to the appropriate committees and ordered to be printed. In the House of Representatives, also, a resolution was passed calling for the reports of "General G. K. WARREN, the engineer in charge of the improvements of New Haven harbor and Housatonic river, Connecticut."

Mr. Banks (H. R. No. 1,218), to authorize the construction of ten or more steam vessels of war, and for other purposes.

Mr. Hale (H. R. No. 1,213), establishing the number of officers of certain ranks in the U. S. Navy.

Mr. Garfield (H. R. No. 1,257), to extend the jurisdiction of the Light-house Board.

Mr. Sloss (H. R. No. 1,252), regulating the pay of officers in the U. S. Army and Navy when absent on leave.

Mr. Sheldon (H. R. No. 1,254), making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the Militia of the United States, and for other purposes.

Mr. Poland (H. R. No. 1,215), in addition to an act granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812 and the widows of deceased soldiers.

Mr. HALE, in the House of Representatives, discussed the bill introduced by him "to relieve American built steamers and vessels from import duties laid upon materials and articles entering into their construction, repair, and use." He quoted at length from the report of the chief of tonnage in the Treasury Department, to show how largely the Government was dependent during the war for ships and seamen. Bounty and bounty land bills have a large place in the present Congress, and from this fact, writes a correspondent of the *Tribune*, it would be seen, if from no other signs, that the Presidential election is approaching.

BISMARCK's last note to the French government, regarding the release of the murderers of German soldiers by French courts, seems to have made a deep impression on France; perhaps more so than was intended; for, as it appears from Paris journals, the French have drawn the conclusion that Germany is eager to devise some pretence either for a resumption of hostilities or at any rate for the re-occupation of the six departments already evacuated. The French argue that the German chancellor has become alarmed by the alacrity with which France recovers from her blows, by the good order that reigns throughout the country, the revival of commerce, the elastic power with which the heavy financial burdens are carried, and the patriotic spirit that animates the newly organized armies. They believe that the German chancellor now repents of having given up his material guarantees so soon, and foresees that perhaps two years hence the national feeling, which already glorifies the murderers of Germans as patriots, will not permit the fulfilment of the conditions of the treaty. Hence he is,

they believe, anxious to avail himself of any plausible pretence to begin preparations for a new war. It is for this reason, they assert, that he placed the six eastern departments in a state of siege, and used language toward the French government so arrogant as to incite to some violence which might serve his purpose and give him an excuse for gathering again large masses of troops about Paris.

The official journals in Berlin, on their part, have hastened to declare this interpretation as entirely ungrounded. Germany, they claim, in no way holds the government in Versailles responsible for the outrages committed on her troops and the action taken by her courts with reference thereto. On the contrary, they declare it is believed that the French government is earnestly endeavoring to impress the public with the importance of loyally fulfilling the stipulations of the treaty. The peaceable attitude of Europe, as well as the political and military situation, offer, they declare, the strongest guarantees of peace, the necessity for which France will herself eventually recognize notwithstanding the present excited state of feeling. These expressions have somewhat appeased the indignation of France, although President THIERS, because of the praises bestowed on him by these German writers, finds himself accused of being a tool of the German government and observing a position toward her not becoming the dignity of France.

What has tended most to irritate the French conceit has been the fact that the note sent by BISMARCK to Versailles was drawn up in the German language, and in that tongue was read to the minister of foreign affairs, who first became acquainted with its contents after having had a copy translated. Though the incident may seem trivial in itself, France cannot just now consent without emotion to allow Germany to follow in this respect the example of the English and our own Government, who have refused to adopt the French language as the language of diplomacy.

THE question of disagreement with Russia may be considered as set at rest. During his visit to the termination of the Colorado Central railroad, the Grand Duke ALEXIS joined heartily, we are told, in the old war song, "WE WILL FIGHT FOR UNCLE SAM." This may be assumed to have committed the imperial dynasty of Russia unreservedly to an alliance with the United States, and if the intrigues of CATACAZY, the minister, can be supposed to be sufficient to disturb our good understanding with Russia, the songs of ALEXIS, the Grand Duke, ought to be sufficient, certainly, to restore it.

THE treasurer of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, J. S. FULLERTON, is energetically at work to make up the fund necessary to erect a monument to the memory of Gen. GEO. H. THOMAS. Gen. JOE HOOKER has been appointed collector for the State of New York, and is appointing representatives in every county of the State to secure contributions. It certainly ought not to be difficult to secure the funds necessary to erect a suitable memorial to an officer who has so won upon the esteem of his countrymen and of his fellow soldiers as THOMAS.

FROM Nice we learn by way of Paris, January 27, that General SHERMAN and Lieutenant GRANT have started for Italy, after having been entertained by Minister WASHBURNE at a grand banquet. The American squadron at Nice was preparing to sail for an Italian port. Mr. CURTIN, our minister at the court of St. Petersburg, was expected to meet General SHERMAN and Mr. WASHBURNE at Nice.

A despatch from Washington informs us that General Sickles' mail advices from Madrid give very interesting accounts of the reception there of General Sherman and staff. A dinner was given by the King and Queen in compliment to the General, and a banquet at the American Legation, under the auspices of Mr. Adie, Chargé d'Affaires, which was attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Marine, the Minister of the Colonies, and Senor Castellar. The toasts and speeches were pervaded by a very friendly spirit toward the United States. The ball subsequently given at the Legation was a delightful affair, and was attended by the leading social and political people, without distinction of party.

CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: As your valuable paper is taken by a large number of Pennsylvania's ex-soldiers and sailors, all of whom are to-day taking solid interest in all military and naval affairs, it may not, perhaps, be uninteresting to these readers to learn of the last annual convention of the G. A. R. in Philadelphia.

For two days the convention was in session, being represented by worthy delegates from every portion of the State. Comrades who had not seen each other since the exciting days of Vicksburg or Gettysburg, met at this time and never seemed weary in recounting the wondrous stories of their camp fires. The reports of the Adjutant and Quartermaster-Generals were read, showing a most satisfactory state of affairs throughout the entire order. Of course everything relating to the business of the organization was transacted in secret session. There was one noticeable feature connected with the meeting which is deserving of mention, and that was the entire absence of everything which in any manner smelt of political chicanery. Vice-Commander Reader, who is just elected, is one of the prominent and most promising of the Young Democracy of Pennsylvania. By his side was the gallant General Hartrauft, who will undoubtedly receive the Republican nomination for the next governor of the Keystone State.

These veterans visited Independence Hall, the Union League, United States Mint, and other objects of interest, where they were received by the official and the citizen with the kindest mark of respect.

The crowning feature of the whole, however, was the banquet at the Continental, where over three hundred soldiers and sailors joined in the festivities of the hour.

General Burnside presided, while upon his right and left were seen Generals Meade, Sickles, Hartrauft, Wagner, Owens, with a score of lesser military lights, while the bar, the bench, the pulpit, and the press were represented by such men as Chief-Justice Thompson, Judge Campbell, Bishop Simpson, Stockton, and others.

Toasts were offered and replied to by Generals Burnside, Meade, Sickles, Patterson, and Bingham, Chief-Justice Thompson, Judge Campbell, and others.

One particular feature of the banquet was the total absence of all intoxicating liquors. The convention adjourned to meet in one year at Gettysburg.

B. T. H.

PHILADELPHIA, January 25, 1872.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE WILLIAMS BILL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Your remarks on the Williams bill in your issue of the 20th, are excellent in the main, but it is quite certain you do not perceive its full purview, and its real harmony with your general views on staff reorganization. The whole force of his bill is to break up bureau organization, and to introduce proper staff organization on a plan of detail, from regiments similar in many respects to the Prussian system. The department of purchase and supply in our military administration is not in any sense a staff department, nor is the department of logistics. Building of barracks, establishing military posts, supplying transportation to the Army and furnishing it with proper quartermasters' supplies and subsistence, extended and vast as our territory is, constitutes a great military department of administration, that in its nature and responsibility partakes but little of staff duty or characterization. Certainly it has no similitude to the duties of staff officers, as taught in the school of instruction for the staff in the Prussian system. We have made the mistake of styling all duties not properly regimental as "staff." Neither a paymaster, quartermaster, or commissary, is in proper military characterization, a staff officer; nor do their offices and duties require any special staff qualifications or study. They are proper bureau officers. The staff of armies is the military family of the generals commanding. And although quartermasters, paymasters and commissaries are under their orders, they do not constitute their military staff. They constitute a department for Army supplies, nothing more. Such a department in every army should, from the very nature of its duties, be permanent and separate in its organization, because of its accountability to the Treasury.

The Williams bill seems to be framed upon this idea, and is not therefore, in establishing a permanent Quartermaster's Department, in repugnance with its spirit of hostility to bureaucracy.

In former articles, Messrs. Editors, it has not been my purpose to belittle staff duty proper, or to underrate its paramount importance. I have only spoken of it as it has been dwarfed and belittled by the permanent existing Adjutant-General's Department. And it is the universal sentiment of the Army, that so far as this organization has illustrated its usefulness, properly educated clerks would have been equally efficient, and probably far more useful to the Army than it has been; for they would not have aspired to military honors and titles, that should only be conferred when won in the field. Our strictures were directed at the organization, and its mischievous tendency in an administration ill-directed by its chiefs, few of whom had the military experience with troops in the field, or the eminent military qualities that should characterize chiefs of staff to generals commanding. Among the members of this corps were many of our ablest officers, and among them many of the best generals in the war of the rebellion, who in the inspiration of the higher military education, took commissions in the volunteers and won excellent reputations and honest fame. And we here repeat that we do not undervalue the officers of the Adjutant-General's Department, or the importance of staff duties proper and the eminent qualifications staff officers should possess, but the mal-administration and deteriorating in-

fluences of the existing organization. Such was the gist of our former criticism, and its justice cannot be denied.

Military literature, however perfected in an officer, and however desirable in a staff, is only a secondary consideration; and few generals would prefer a polished writer to a substantial soldier. Terseness and force in words and perspicuity in expression constitute the military literature of orders and reports. Few officers educated at West Point would be long in the department of orders without acquiring this literature; but many would serve out the years of their life and make little progress in mastering the staff-science, and never qualify themselves for a Fitzroy Somerset, Berthier or Von Moltke in the field.

No European army is officered in all its grades with officers so thoroughly educated in the science and theories of war, as the United States Army. The field for the selection of staff officers on a roster-plan, is therefore better in our Army than in the Prussian, and the objection to permanent staff organization stronger. For these reasons the necessity of the staff-schools in the Prussian service does not exist to the same degree with us, that makes it quite paramount in that and other European armies. While it is doubtful whether Congress will assent to the Prussian staff-school, in addition to the cost of a West Point education, we must do the best we can in reorganization to get rid of existing evils and to approximate the good of the Prussian system of detail. The Williams bill is a good march in the right direction, and with slight amendments will be a grand advance.

I am sure you will excuse me, Messrs. Editors, if I suggest, that in every judgment you are disposed to overrate the Prussian system, and underrate West Point. Sherman's march to the sea, in its boldness of strategy and unexampled execution quite transcended the strategy of Von Moltke before Metz, Sedan or Paris.

Elements and forces in war were at the control of Von Moltke, and mainly contributed to his rapid and extraordinary successes, that were not at Sherman's command; and it cannot be doubted that history will record his march from Atlanta to Savannah, and Grant's campaign against Vicksburg and the opening of the Mississippi, as greater conceptions in the grand strategy of war, than ever before or since decided the fate of the largest armies since the great Alexander conquered India. Our Army system under West Point education has in all our wars supplied our generals with able and efficient staff families; but they have been mainly drawn by detail from the line of the Army. We have had in fact the practical benefit of the Prussian plan, by selecting the most experienced regimental and line officers and assigning them to staffs of generals as aide-de-camp, and acting adjutant-generals. Their West Point education was par excellence staff education. Their after-experience with troops in the field, and long regimental service, furnished this education and eminently qualified them for the highest class of staff duties in war. So Messrs. Editors, in my judgment, it is refining and sharpening a very sharp point, to draw close distinctions in favor of the Prussian plan of staff; while we can practically have all its advantages by the detail system, as contemplated by the Williams bill.

Mr. Williams does not propose a chief of artillery and ordnance, because his purpose is to have the field officers of artillery take the charge of armories and arsenals by roster detail, and by experience in the fabrications of all ordnance and arms and their ammunition, to qualify them for the direction of artillery as chiefs to generals in the field; while all captains and lieutenants in their regular roster-detail will also pass through the school of experience in armories and arsenals. Such a plan properly executed, cannot fail to improve our artillery arm, and to give it eminent opportunity to acquire super-excellence.

BOMBSHELL.

THE BEAUPRE AND BROADWELL GUNS.

RECORD OF FIRING, SEPTEMBER 2 AND 4, 1868.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In compliance with the request of your correspondent "M.," I enclose herewith the record of the firing with the Beaupré (so-called Gebhart), Broadwell, and Ordnance guns in 1868, for which I am indebted to the courtesy of the Chief of Ordnance.

Of the Beaupré gun I know nothing whatever; Broadwell, chiefly known for his excellent gas check, which has become an almost necessary adjunct to every breech-loading system, has manufactured breech-loaders at Karlsruhe. His system is fully described by Major Vautier in his "Armes de Guerre." Switzerland is the only country, so far as I can learn, that uses these guns, having given an order some years ago for 78 8-pounders. The Broadwell formative differs very materially from the bolt and cylindro-prismatic wedge systems adopted by most of the Continental powers. I make no comment upon the time of firing of the above three guns, but refer your correspondent to the memoir itself.

O. E. M.

WATERTOWN ARSENAL, January 25, 1872.

RECORD OF FIRING—BEAUPRE GUN.

September 1, 1868.

1. Projectile furnished by Dr. Gebhart, who presents the gun. Charge: one pound of powder. A very considerable escape of gas took place. It was found on examination that the adjusting screws were not set right. No account taken of range.

2. The gun was cleaned and the adjusting screws set tight, and the marks of previous gas escape removed; same charge and projectile. In loading, it was found that the breech-piece was moved with difficulty, owing, possibly, to the adjusting screws having been set unevenly. Escape of gas much less than at first fire.

3. Same projectile and charge. Escape of gas not excessive. The lever for locking the breech-piece and barrel after the former is closed, would not remain in place. The lever is so arranged that its weight as well as the shock from the discharge tends to unlock the bolt.

4. Same charge and projectile. Two men were re-

quired at the lever to open the breech-piece. The platinum ring inserted in the rear end of the barrel appears to be starting, and to be compressed by the discharge so as to bind between the surface of breech and barrel.

5. Same charge and projectile. Escape of gas was not great. Two men were again required at the lever to open the breech-piece. The projectile was set home with difficulty, it being necessary for the cannoner to mount on the axletree and use a rammer.

6. Same charge and projectile. The breech-piece was carefully sponged before loading, but a hand spike was required to set the projectile home. In loading, four men were required at the lever to open the breech.

7. Same charge and projectile. Four men required at the lever to open the breech-piece. Escape of gas not excessive, but marks plainly at each fire the strap opposite the junction of the breech and barrel. After the gun was fired, four men were again required at the lever to open the breech-piece for the examination of the board.

September 2, 1868.

8. The gun was adjusted before firing by Mr. Wright, present in behalf of Dr. Gebhart, by placing a sheet of writing paper between the breech-piece and barrel, closing the breech, setting the adjusting screws tight, and then opening the breech and removing the paper. The detail for revising the gun consisted of one non-commissioned officer and four men, with instructions to fire ten rounds as rapidly as practicable. The gun had been thoroughly cleaned after the firing of yesterday. From the command *load* till the command *fire*, one minute and forty seconds elapsed.

9. Same charge and projectile; one man at the lever to open the breech-piece. Time of loading and firing, one minute, deliberate but not very careful aim being taken.

10. Same charge and projectile. Time of loading and firing, one minute.

11. Same charge and projectile. Time of loading and firing, one minute, ten seconds. Breech-piece opened with difficulty by one man.

12. Same charge and projectile. Time, one minute, ten seconds.

13. Same charge and projectile. Three men required at the lever to open the breech-piece. Time, one minute, twenty-five seconds.

14. Same charge and projectile. Four men required to open the breech-piece. Time, two minutes.

15. Same charge and projectile. Four men required at the lever to open the breech-piece. The shot could not be sent home with the rammer. The trail hand-spike was used for that purpose. Time, two minutes.

16. Same charge and projectile. Five men were required at the lever to open the breech-piece. The projectile was set home in the chamber with difficulty, by using the trail hand-spike. Time, two minutes, twenty seconds.

17. Same charge and projectile. Five men at the lever could not open the breech-piece to load until the adjusting screws were loosened, when five men raised the breech. A critical examination of the surfaces at the joint between the breech and barrel, showed the residuum of gas escape formed in considerable quantity on the upper and left face of the breech-piece, caked hard and adhering closely to the face. It was carefully removed and the joint readjusted by Mr. Wright. It should be stated that the face of the breech was wiped with a piece of sheepskin, as recommended by Dr. Gebhart, after each discharge. The residuum of gas escape was removed on this occasion by a knife. Time not taken.

18. Same charge and projectile. Two men at the lever opened the breech-piece preparatory to loading. After the gun was fired, three men were required at the lever to open the breech-piece. Time not taken.

19. Same projectile and charge, fired after an interval of two hours from the 18th shot. One man raised the breech-piece. Hand-spike required to set the shot home.

20. Same charge and projectile. One man opened the breech-piece. Face not wiped.

21. Same charge and projectile. Two men required to open the breech-piece. Face not wiped before firing.

22. Same charge and projectile. Four men required to raise the breech-piece to load. Face not wiped before firing.

23. Same charge and projectile. Face wiped before loading. Four men required to open the breech-block.

24. Same charge and projectile. Face wiped before loading. Four men required to raise the breech-piece.

25. Same charge and projectile. One man to open the breech.

26. Same charge and projectile. Two men to open the breech.

September 4, 1868.

27. Same charge and projectile. Friction primer failed. Time not taken.

28. Same charge and projectile. Two men required at the lever to open the breech. Trail hand-spike required to set the shot home. Time not taken.

29. Same charge and projectile. Shot set home by rammer without trouble. Two friction tubes failed. Time not taken.

30. Five men at the lever were unable to raise the chamber until the adjusting screws were loosened. Trail hand-spike required to set the shot home. Same charge and projectile. Time not taken.

31. Same charge and projectile. Trail hand-spike required to set home the projectile. Three men required at the lever to open the breech-piece. Time not taken.

32. Same charge and projectile. Three men at the lever to open the chamber. Hand-spike required to set the shot home. Time not taken.

33. Same charge and projectile. Four men required at the lever to open the breech-piece before loading. Hand-spike required to set the shot home. After firing,

six men at the lever were unable to raise the breech-piece until one of the adjusting screws was loosened. The platinum ring in the rear end of the barrel is apparently compressed and disturbed after each shot, and is gradually giving way.

The face of the chamber was wiped after each discharge in this day's practice. Gas escaped more or less at each discharge, at times quite freely.

RECORD OF FIRING (BROADWELL GUN), SEPT. 2, 12 M.

1. Charge: one and one-half pounds of powder; projectile of the pattern furnished by the inventor.

2. Cartridge and projectile same as above; cartridge bag too large, and was burst in putting it in.

3. Cartridge and projectile as above; cartridge bag too large, but was finally got into the chamber.

4. One and one-half pounds of powder in 6-pound cartridge bag; projectile same as above; further firing was suspended until new cartridges of smaller diameter could be obtained.

5. The first of ten rounds fired with detail of one non-commissioned officer and four men, with as much rapidity as practicable; projectile same as above; time of loading and firing, one minute.

6. Time, one minute ten seconds; 7, one minute; 8, forty-five seconds; 9, fifty seconds; 10, forty-five seconds; 11, fifty seconds, primer failed; 12, forty-five seconds; 13, forty-five seconds; 14, forty-five seconds.

September 4.—15. Not taken.

16. Solid shot too large; shell substituted; time not taken.

17 to 24. Time not taken.

Time of last ten rounds, fifteen minutes, including delays caused by friction primer failing No. 19, and by boat crossing line of fire No. 24.

Average rate thought to be about the same as on preceding days. The gun itself offered no difficulties in working, delays being due to aiming and other causes.

RECORD OF FIRING 3-INCH WROUGHT-IRON MUZZLE-LOADER RIFLED ORDNANCE GUN, SEPT. 2, 3:30 P. M.

Hotchkiss shot, service charge. The first of ten rounds fired with as much rapidity as practicable by the same detachment and under the same circumstances as the Beaupré and Broadwell guns. Time of loading and firing, twenty-five seconds.

No. 2. Time, thirty seconds; 3, forty seconds; 4, forty seconds; 5, thirty seconds; 6, twenty-five seconds; 7, thirty-five seconds; 8, thirty seconds; 9, thirty seconds.

10. Friction primer failed; time not taken.

September 4.—No. 11. Time, thirty seconds; 12, forty seconds; 13, thirty seconds; 14, twenty-eight seconds.

15. Friction primer failed; time not taken.

16. Time, twenty-five seconds; 17, twenty-four seconds.

18. Time not taken; boat in line of fire.

19. Time, twenty-five seconds; 20, thirty seconds.

Time of last ten rounds, seven minutes, including all delays.

THE PRUSSIAN STAFF.

[From Baron Staffell's Reports on the Military Forces of Prussia.]

IN Prussia the composition of the staff is controlled by neither law nor regulation. The authorities started from the sound principle, that of all the officers of the army, those of the staff ought to be the most intelligent and the best educated. It was thought that even if it mattered little if an officer commanding a company or a squadron possessed great military ability, it was quite otherwise with a staff officer. His varied duties, the influence which his reports on every subject may have upon the decision of a general, especially in the present age, when armies are large and the theatre of operations very extensive, make it necessary for him to have had a special education, and to possess peculiar zeal and ability. When the principle was recognized, that of all the officers of the army those of the staff must be the most capable, what steps were taken to bring it into practical effect? It was decided to recruit officers for the staff among those of every branch of the service, and to give those who offered themselves every inducement and stimulus, by rapid promotion, etc., to exert themselves; the power, however, being reserved of immediately dismissing from the staff, at any moment of their career, those officers who failed to show sufficient ability or zeal in the discharge of their duties. In consequence of these measures, the candidates for the staff are all young officers, ambitious, intelligent, and hardworking: ambitious, because they seek rapid promotion; intelligent, because they know that if they do not come up to the required intellectual standard they will be sent back to their regiments.

In order thoroughly to understand the advantages that are reserved for officers of the staff, it is necessary to remember that in the Prussian army promotion is generally by seniority. The King has the power of promoting by selection any officer of the services; but as he does not use this prerogative more than once in thirty or forty cases, it may be said that in a general way promotion is by seniority. Therefore the officers who are definitely accepted for the staff reach the higher grades quite seven or eight years sooner than they otherwise would.

The Prussian army, or rather the army of the North German Confederation, is composed, as indeed is well-known, of permanent corps d'armée. It has also a permanent chief of the staff, General de Moltke. He is, moreover, the absolute commander of the staff corps, considering it as a separate body. On him devolves the duty of choosing the officers to be admitted and employed: he promotes them from one grade so another (the Minister contenting himself with the ratification of the same); he, too, allots to them their various duties. His power is illimitable, and this position, which would appear impossible in France, here appears to be perfectly rational and simple, owing perhaps as much to the talent and integrity of General de Moltke as to the composition of permanent corps d'armée.

Every subaltern of every arm of the service has the opportunity of offering himself as a candidate for the

Academy of War (Kriegs Academie) at Berlin after he has served three years as a commissioned officer with his regiment. The Academy of War is a superior military school, without its equal in Europe, either for the ability of its professors or its extensive course of study. It is not simply a staff college; its aim is far more extensive. It is rather a school where officers of intelligence and ambition may receive thorough instruction in the higher science of the theory of war, and by that means form a secure groundwork for their ultimate intellectual development, which renders them capable of service on the staff, and the higher command of troops.

Nearly all the generals of the Prussian army have been pupils of the Academy of War, and three-fourths of them have served on the staff. The proportion will continue to increase. The Ecole Polytechnique, and those of Metz and St. Cyr, are only special schools compared to the Prussian Academy of War with its extensive programme.

After the lapse of the three years comprising the course, the whole of the officer students, without a final examination or numerical classification, are sent back to their respective regiments. The professors and the director of the Academy point out to General de Moltke the names of the most able and the most industrious. From these he chooses twelve, among whom are officers of each branch of the service, and during the year following their exit from the Academy they are attached for six or nine months to a regiment of an arm of the service different from their own. Those who have shown zeal and ability during this stage are accepted by General de Moltke, and are summoned to Berlin to do duty at headquarters. They retain their original uniform and character.

The period which these officers spend at headquarters—about eighteen months or two years—has the greatest possible influence on their future life; for there they are in a species of staff college, whose chief is General de Moltke himself, and whose power is absolute. In instructing them he gradually gets to know them and to estimate their relative value. He takes care to accustom them successively to the work of each of the six subdivisions into which headquarters are divided; he lectures to them; he gives them reports to draw up on various subjects; he reads and criticises these productions before the whole body, but without divulging the name of the author, in order not to hurt the susceptibilities of the less able, and not to give the more talented too high an opinion of their abilities.

After this sojourn of the candidates at headquarters, the selection of General de Moltke is made. He might immediately appoint those he has chosen; but in order not to wound the feelings of their competitors he sends them all back again to their respective regiments.

Those who have failed to do duty with their regiments, and retain but the shadowy recollection of the tests they have passed through; the successful ones are promoted after the lapse of a few months to the rank of captain, and are styled staff officers, and don the uniform of the same.

General de Moltke, in the capacity of Permanent Chief of the Staff of the Army, distributes these captains through the service according to the requirements of the moment; some he retains at headquarters, employing them in matters for which they have shown special ability; but the greater number he sends to the various corps d'armée, or divisions, where they have to become acquainted with general service. Particular care is taken to avoid employing the time of staff officers with clerical work; this is invariably executed by non-commissioned officers and soldiers, under the superintendence of the officers, who can consequently employ themselves with studies more useful and more dignified—the very opposite to what we see in France.

At the end of two years or two years and a half, these captains cease to do duty on the staff; and to avoid bringing them into contact with their former comrades, over whose heads they have passed, they are posted to a different regiment from that in which they served as a subaltern; there they receive, according to the branch of the service, the command of a company, battery, or squadron.

After about two years' service, as above, in a regiment, they are promoted by selection to the rank of chef d'escadron, and resume their places and uniform on the staff. General de Moltke employs them according to the requirements of the service, either at headquarters at Berlin, or with one of the corps d'armée or divisions.

I here call particular attention to the system of continual examinations and siftings to which the officers of the staff are subjected; for, as I said before, if at headquarters at Berlin, or on the staff of a corps d'armée or division, an officer was found whose abilities had been too highly estimated, or whose zeal was beginning to wane, he would not be promoted to the rank of chef d'escadron, but would be left to do regimental duty and would have no further chance of staff employment.

Before going farther I will explain the advantages by which staff officers profit; it is precisely in the rapid passage from captain to chef d'escadron: they gain here six or seven years on their comrades; and having gained one in passing from lieutenant to captain, it puts the total gain at seven or eight years.*

When staff officers have obtained the rank of chef d'escadron they have no further special advantages to look forward to; but it is noteworthy that at every grade of the hierarchy they are only promoted after having served at least one year with a regiment. Thus one year at least before a staff officer expects his promotion to lieutenant-colonel he leaves the staff and takes over the command of a complete battalion, or of several squadrons, or of several batteries; and before a lieutenant-colonel can be promoted to full colonel on the staff, he must have held the command for at least a year of the entire regiment (three battalions) of infantry, of cavalry, or of artillery.

* As may be easily imagined, these officers are looked on with some jealousy by the rest of the army; but the feeling is very limited, as in staff officers there can be no doubt of their real ability, and of the incessant hard work to which they are subjected.

Thus staff officers neither lose the power of command nor the practice of equitation, if, on the staff, they are employed in a sedentary occupation.

SELECTION OF STAFF OFFICERS FROM THE ARMY.

But even this is not all that is done to ensure the service on the staff of all officers possessing special qualifications which may be usefully employed for the good of the public service. The officers of whom I have hitherto treated are all of one class; they are twelve pupils chosen out of forty who were admitted into the Academy of War, out of 120 who offered themselves; but as it was justly argued, that out of all the numerous subalterns of the army having more than three years' service, there must certainly be some of special ability who for one reason or another did not offer themselves as candidates for the Academy of War, and that even among the eighty who failed to pass the entrance examination there might be some whose services would be of importance, it was therefore thought unwise to throw away the chance of procuring thoroughly good officers for a mere technicality; the following measures are consequently in force:

The officers commanding regiments are requested to signify to General de Moltke, through the usual channel of communication, the names of those officers under their command who are remarkable for their special talents, their zeal for the service, and desirable physical qualifications for the staff. It is noteworthy that in this respect it is rather necessary to moderate the zeal of commanding officers than to stimulate it, so eager are they to be known as possessing able officers, and so willing to push them rapidly forward for the good of the service. General de Moltke sends to the officers whose names have been submitted to him questions to study, problems to work out, etc.; and if he then considers them meritorious, he summons them to headquarters at Berlin. If, during their probationary residence there, they give further undoubted proof of ability, he appoints them staff officers and employs them according to their qualifications. On the other hand, if he fails to discover the talents they are said to possess, he sends them back to their regiments, where for a time they are subjected to the quizzing of their comrades.

I mentioned previously, that on the staff of corps d'armée and divisions the time of officers was employed more profitably than in a fruitless clerical labor, which was always executed by non-commissioned officers and men. In point of fact, besides their ordinary routine duties, the generals give them military questions to study, and annually the staff of each corps makes a tour termed a staff tour, under the superintendence of its own chief, in order to keep up and extend their knowledge.

The officers of the headquarters staff at Berlin also make an annual tour, lasting a fortnight or three weeks—sometimes in one province, sometimes in another—under the personal direction of General de Moltke.

It is thus, in carrying out the principle that the staff corps must only be composed of the élite of the army, and by securing to staff officers material advantages by rapid promotion, that the Prussian army has the best staff in Europe. The more I see of it, and the more opportunity I have of comparing it with our own, the more forcibly am I struck with our inferiority.

Idleness and mediocrity are more tolerable in any other officer than in one on the staff. Even if we only take the physical qualifications into account, do we meet here, as in France, with staff officers who are unable to ride three miles at a gallop? I note everything that concerns the Prussian staff corps, and I am perfectly certain that General de Moltke would instantly expel any officer who was not a good horseman. He himself sets the example, and not a day passes that he does not spend some portion of it in the saddle.

I have had the opportunity when in Bohemia, and since then, to become acquainted with many facts which by their individual character could not claim a place in the official records of the war of 1866. But the truth has forced itself upon me that the Prussian arms owed a large share of their victories to the officers of the staff. It would be hardly too much to say that these officers alone directed the campaign of 1866. What facts could I not enumerate to prove that officers composing either the headquarters staff or the staff of corps d'armée or divisions showed the most positive proof of clear judgment, of true warlike ability, of an insatiable zeal! Without mentioning General de Moltke, what commander-in-chief would not consider himself fortunate to have for chief of the staff either General de Voigts-Rhetz or General de Blumenthal, officers of the greatest distinction, who filled that position during the war of 1866, the one with the First, the other with the Second, Army? And what invaluable abilities, what unbounded knowledge in all their subordinate staff officers, colonels, chefs d'escadron, and captains! I do not know one whom any general would hesitate to employ in time of war. What a guarantee, and I may almost say, what an assurance, what tranquillity of mind, is secured to a commander-in-chief by the possession of a staff thus composed of intelligent officers, thoroughly educated and devoted to their duties!

THE *Commercial*, of Cincinnati, Ohio, January 23, 1872, publishes a letter from General W. S. Rosecrans, in which he denies that he is in favor of a filibustering attempt to annex Mexico. He regrets the announcement of imaginary schemes against Mexico, because they produce a false view and cause needless suffering, and damage to solid interests by hindering the growth between the United States and eight millions of our immediate neighbors of a commerce invited by proximity and similarity of political institutions. He deprecates the attempt to thrust our system of government upon others regardless of their feelings, their qualifications and their rights of self-government, and at the risk of those crimes which crowd the ways of violence. He concluded as follows: "I think the intelligence and conscience of our people decidedly in favor of a just and liberal policy of friendship towards Mexico, as best for both countries."

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE.—Doubtless many beneficial amendments to the New York State Military Code could be made, and the change thereby effected would in some measure advance the interest of the National Guard as a whole. But the policy of any one portion thereof introducing amendments which shall further particular organizations, is, to say the least, decidedly objectionable. The New York Code, as revised last year under the immediate supervision of Adjutant-General Townsend, is very perfect, and if any matters of vital interest to the State service should at any time suggest themselves to the members thereof, they should be submitted to the Adjutant-General for his action. We observe an effort has been started in the Second division to amend sections 13 and 18 of the Code so as to prevent members residing in that district from doing duty elsewhere, and at the same time receiving the benefits, such as freedom from jury duty, and allowances on taxes, as provided for under the Code. A bill to this effect has been introduced by Colonel Morton, a member of the Assembly from Kings county (Brooklyn), and we trust the Adjutant-General will give the matter his immediate attention, and if possible prevent its passage. The originators of this bill forget that the National Guard, although divided into districts, is formed for State service, and not for the special protection of any particular city or county thereof, and to prevent undue confusion, certain provisions are made for keeping these districts within limited bounds. The present amendment to the Code seems to be made in the direct interest of the Second division, so that any member of the First division residing within its limits, or Brooklyn, and joining a regiment in the First division, or New York, shall lose all the benefits accorded to him by the Code; or, in other words, making it necessary for men to join regiments in the city in which they reside, if pecuniary or other advantages be derived on their part. A large number of the members of the First division reside in Brooklyn, having joined New York regiments through social or other influences, and joining the National Guard more through these than the mere motive of any pecuniary or other benefit derived therefrom. The National Guard would be likely to lose many of its best members if the law forced them to join any particular organization, or compelled any member to sacrifice pleasurable associations formed outside of his own particular military district, for the mere routine of military drill.

FIRST DIVISION COURT-MARTIAL.—A court-martial is ordered to pass upon the delinquencies of officers "absent from any parade, encampment, drill, or meeting for instruction," during the year 1871, held pursuant to division orders. Detail for the court: Brigadier-General Wm. G. Ward, commanding First brigade; Colonel John H. Budke, commanding Third Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles R. Braine, commanding Ninth Infantry. The court will assemble at the armory of the Twenty-second Infantry March 6 at 8 o'clock.

We understand some "new ideas" relative to the power of these courts under the Military Code will be introduced by some of the delinquent officers ordered before this court, which may tend to demoralize some of the previous decisions of courts-martial generally held during the past year or so.

A HIGHLY COLORED STORY.—The colored man's suffrage right as a citizen has long since been acknowledged, as also his right to become one of the defenders of the Union. As the natural sequel to this, an effort is being made to persuade the Legislature of New York to allow the colored man to become a National Guardsman. As the law now reads, he cannot be recruited, and accordingly State Senator Graham has introduced a bill providing that section 1 of the act entitled "An act to provide for the enrolment of the militia" by striking out the word "white," leaving colored companies to enjoy the same privileges as others in the National Guard of the State. The bill has been referred to the Military Committee. There is every prospect of an exciting debate on the right of the "man and brother" to exercise in New York State the "privileges" of a National Guardsman. Other States of the Union—particularly Pennsylvania—have long since recognized this right, and the latter State has at the present time a remarkably well organized provisional brigade of colored militia, who have from time to time rendered effective service. There are at present two colored regiments of infantry in the Regular service of the United States, who, in discipline and drill, equal the average.

New York, however, does not require any more troops for National Guard purposes of any color; its present organization is now too large, and immediate disbandment, or consolidation of a portion to the State force, is under contemplation. The question of color, however, should not interfere with the "privileges" of citizens, and the sooner the question is settled the better for all concerned.

The Albany correspondent of the *Herald* informs us that, "strange as it may seem, it is expected that the rural regiments will make the greatest hubbub over the bill; but if it will be any consolation to them in their dire extremity to know that they have the least to bear of all the regiments from the immediate operations of the act, they are quite welcome to the information I have obtained as to the real movers in this negro bugaboo piece of party policy. The fact is simply this: A large number of prominent and wealthy men in New York have made up their minds that there must

be a metropolitan negro regiment, not an independent organization simply, but a regular regiment of the First division. Besides this they are anxious that it should be made a part and parcel of the celebrated Third brigade. These gentlemen contend that they have good material on hand, although thoroughly drilled, and that on the score of drill, therefore, the Third brigade need never be ashamed of their new companions. The brigade has, up to the present time, been the sunlight of the First division, and it can therefore better afford than any other brigade to become for awhile the great over-crowning shadow of the entire National Guard."

ELEVENTH BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION.—A Court-martial is ordered for the trial of all delinquent commissioned officers in this brigade, to convene at brigade headquarters, Brooklyn, February 6. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel S. H. Farnham, Twenty-third regiment; Major A. H. Rogers, Forty-seventh regiment; Major F. J. Karcher, Thirty-second regiment. Major G. H. Fisher, judge-advocate. Lieutenant G. W. Van Mater, recorder.

Captain William H. Beebe, the capable and popular commandant of the Howitzer battery, attached to this brigade, has resigned. Captain Beebe's retirement will doubtless be severely felt in this command, and is therefore regretted. He, however, fortunately leaves every matter in good shape, and the battery under the control of an efficient officer.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.—Drills will be held by this regiment during the month of February as follows: Right wing drill at State Arsenal, Companies B, C, D, E, and K, on the 7th. Division drills at armory as follows: Companies B and C, on the 15th; D and E, on the 20th; A, F, and H, on the 23d. Left wing drill at State Arsenal, Companies A, E, G, H, and I, on the 27th. Division drill at armory, Companies G and K, on the 28th. The above drills will be in full fatigue uniform, with cross-belts, officers with side-arms. Major John Appleton will take command of the division drills on the 15th and 28th of February. Quartermaster D. P. Arnold will be present at the armory on the evening of February 15 for the purpose of settling the accounts of companies. The regiment will assemble at the armory on February 22 in full-dress uniform for inspection. Roll call at 8 o'clock P. M. Companies competing for the recruiting medal will on this occasion have all their recruits present, and also the enlistment papers of each recruit. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Officers will be held at the armory on the evening of February 19 at 8 o'clock.

THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.—On the evening of January 27 the officers of this command by a unanimous vote elected Brevet Major General James Jourdan again to the command of the regiment. This well-known, popular, and capable officer some two years since resigned control of the Thirteenth regiment from business motives, to the manifest regret of every member thereof, leaving it in splendid condition as regards numbers, drill, and discipline. In first assuming command, he introduced a system of thorough reorganization of the regiment, weeding out the sluggards, official and otherwise, and instituted reforms for the perfection and advancement of the regiment seldom before witnessed in a National Guard command. In fact, after a few months' control of the affairs of the regiment, it became very evident to an observer—and was so expressed by the commander himself—that he intended to either make or break the regiment over which he then had control. The new regime introduced was one that evidently tried well the mettle of the old Thirteenth, but it stood it well, and came forth renewed in vigor, and has ever since manifested a love and respect for General Jourdan almost unprecedented in the National Guard service. Since that time the regiment has had two commanders, both of whom have to a degree maintained the good standard of the regiment, without, however, visibly adding to its general progress. We say this in no spirit of disparagement to the efforts of these officers (Dakin and Mason), for we consider it doing exceedingly well in these times for any officer to prevent retrogression, especially in a command like the Thirteenth, which at the time of General Jourdan's retirement was above the general standard of National Guard organizations. The officer again chosen has more than once been petitioned to assume command of the regiment, but for personal reasons of a business nature has invariably refused, and even this time he was chosen with serious doubts of his acceptance. It was therefore voted in his absence to wait upon the general at his residence, which was accordingly done. General Jourdan, however, unfortunately was not at home, but being expected shortly, the delegation of some twenty impatiently awaited his return, having stationed an official guard in front of the residence to report his arrival. In less than half an hour the general arrived, and most cordially welcomed the officers. General Dakin, the presiding officer, then informed their host of the action of the Thirteenth's officers, supplementing his remarks with the flattering assurance of his own and the regiment's high estimation of the soldierly and gentlemanly qualities of the officer addressed. General Jourdan, amid an oppressive silence, expressed his pleasure at the compliment thus offered him, and for some moments kept his assembled guests in suspense as to his ultimate action in the matter, at one moment raising, then dashing their hopes. Finally, after considerable wavering, and amid the most tantalizing suspense, he was constrained to overcome business motives, and accepted the then offered boon of the Thirteenth regiment. These last words were re-

ceived with an enthusiasm, undoubtedly gratifying to the officer concerned, the officers surrounding their former commander and showering overwhelming thanks upon him for his satisfactory decision. A social chat of an hour's duration followed, General Jourdan meanwhile unostentatiously entertaining the officers, who finally parted with feelings of unalloyed pleasure. The re-election of General Jourdan has created the most enthusiastic feelings throughout the regiment, and will doubtless give place eventually to the most beneficial results. From the remarks of General Jourdan made on this occasion it is evident he intends pursuing a course of most rigid discipline in the regiment, and those who do not feel disposed to abide thereby had better "stand from under."

THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—This regiment is ordered to assemble in fatigue dress and white gloves for drill by division, at the armory, at 8 o'clock P. M., as follows: Companies D and H, February 6 and 20, and March 5 and 19; B and A, February 2 and 16, and March 1 and 15; F and E, February 13 and 27, and March 12 and 26; G and C, February 9 and 23, and March 8 and 22. Company drills will be suspended during this period. Lieutenant-Colonel Rueger and Major Karcher will supervise these drills, and the former officer will instruct the divisions in the school of the company, instructions for skirmishers, and school of the battalion, parts 1, 2, and 3. He will also practice forms for dress parade and review. The Regimental Board of Examination will hereafter meet every first Saturday of each month at 8 o'clock P. M. at regimental headquarters. Commandants of companies who have elections for non-commissioned officers in their commands will cause the newly elected non-commissioned officers to report to this board direct, without waiting for an order to appear before the same as heretofore. Colonel Roeher, the commandant of the regiment, announces that this command was honored at the last meeting of the State Military Association, held at Albany January 16 and 17, 1872, by the presentation of a beautiful guidon, in accordance with resolution of said society, to present a guidon to the two regiments showing the largest proportionate increase at the muster of 1871, over the muster of 1870, and this regiment showing the second best proportionate increase of any regiment in the State. The colonel hopes that this recognition of the exertions of the men of this regiment to strengthen its ranks will induce them to further endeavors in this direction, and reminds them that a gold medal will be presented to that member of this regiment who recruits the largest number of men up to the muster of 1872. The companies of this regiment will hereafter take place in regimental line as follows: D, H, B, A, F, E, G, and C.

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.—Companies K, E, G, C, and A, comprising the right wing, assembled for drill and instruction at the State Arsenal, in full fatigue, on Monday evening. None but officers of the regiment and uniformed members of companies drilling were admitted, according to orders. Commandants of companies in General Orders are directed to assemble their respective companies on their regular drill nights promptly at 8 o'clock P. M., and to instruct their men, according to the prescribed tactics, until 9:30 P. M., at which time companies may be dismissed. Particular attention will be given to the instruction of sergeants as to their duties, including the manner of bringing up and taking detail. A regimental recruit class has been formed in the regiment, under the command of Captain William C. Dow. Company commanders will order all recruits enlisted since May 1, 1871, to report to Captain Dow on Tuesday evenings of each week, at 8 o'clock, who will be excused from their regular company drills. Sergeant Walworth, Company F, will report to Captain Dow for duty.

TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—The excitement in this command during the week was the serious fire in the regimental armory, which unfortunate event took place on Tuesday morning last. It seems that shortly after 10 o'clock on the above morning fire was discovered in the armory. An alarm was sounded, and the firemen promptly arriving, the fire, which was in the adjutant's room, was entirely extinguished, as was supposed, before much damage had been done. The fire had been occasioned by a fire-place in the room, resting upon the beams of the floor, and it subsequently appeared that the fire had eaten its way along this beam until it reached more inflammable material beyond the partition between this room and that of the Board of Officers, where it again broke out about an hour after it had been supposed to be subdued. The firemen were again called by a second alarm, sounded at 11:20 A. M., but the fire had gained such headway that they were forced to use such quantities of water as to cause, with the smoke, very serious damage to the building and its contents. The fire destroyed the elegant sword presented to Major McGrath, together with his dress uniform, and the personal property of other officers was greatly injured. The furniture and paintings in the officers' room, which belonged to the regiment, were damaged to the amount of \$8,000, and the furniture in the adjutant's room, which also belonged to the regiment, was injured to the amount of \$300. The building will require at least \$3,000 for repairs, but it is fully insured.

It is probable that the total loss to the regiment will be nearly \$15,000. The rooms of the Board of Officers are a total wreck from fire, water, and smoke. The elegant frescoes of the ceilings are totally ruined, the handsome walls blackened, and the costly black walnut closets entirely destroyed. The latter standing a few inches from the wall and the fire break-

ing out the second time behind them, served as a flue for the flames, and they had already gained great volume when discovered. It was owing to this fact that so much property was destroyed. The flags of the regiment and the oil-painting of the "Twenty-second at Carlisle" were saved uninjured, but everything else in the room was destroyed or damaged. It appears in repairing the armory a bungling mechanic put the grate into the adjutant's room with only a single brick between the fire and the floor-beams, so that it was inevitable that the latter must sooner or later be ignited. But the disaster of the second fire might have been avoided if the firemen had made sure that the fire was entirely extinguished at the first call.

Measures have been taken to prevent a mishap of a similar character in the armory by an alteration of the grates in company rooms, all of which were without protection against fire. The armory committee have taken full charge of the matter, and Captain Clan Ronald, an experienced artisan, will see that proper alterations are made in the armory. He will also aid the insurance appraisers in making up their estimate of damages. As the regiment has sustained a serious loss by this fire—the amount not covered by insurance being estimated at some \$4,000—arrangements have been made to give a grand pay ball at the Academy of Music on Easter Monday, the net proceeds to be devoted to re-fitting the rooms. A vote of thanks has been extended to the firemen by the Board of Officers for their exertions in preserving the property of the regiment.

The graduating squad of the recruit class held its last drill at the armory on Wednesday evening. Adj. Harding, under whose instruction the class has been for the past six months, was in command, and the squad numbers some 40 men. The movements and general setting up of the squad was exceedingly perfect, and every detail indicated the undoubted success of the plan, as well as the excellent qualities of the regimental adjutant as an instructor, and the capable assistance he has received from the sergeant-major and the detailed non-commissioned officers of the regiment. The next band concert of the regiment will take place at the armory February 12.

RIFLE PRACTICE.—We have already published the main portion of this very valuable address on this subject, delivered by Captain Geo. W. Wingate before the State Military Association at Albany. In concluding his address Captain Wingate said:

This, gentlemen, is as clear an explanation of this system as it is possible for me to give during the brief period in which I feel authorized to occupy your time, although I feel that it is necessarily imperfect. There are a number of other details connected with the subject, and which might help to make it better understood, but they would occupy considerable time, and being but details would probably be out of place upon this occasion.

Although the entire course might appear to some as requiring too much time for militia, yet this is not the case. Our citizens and soldiers have as much time to spare as the English volunteer, and yet these have been found to make better marksmen than the regulars; emulation and intelligence supplying the place of practice.

It would be difficult to imagine any drill better adapted to such an organization as the National Guard. Its main principles are easily taught by instruction and example in the drill-room. The "position" and "aiming-drill" upon which the system is based can be gone through with in the same manner as any part of the "Manual," and the practice which constitutes perfection can be even had at home in aiming at a wafer pasted upon a wall. In fact, it is said that one hour a day of this private practice will in a few weeks make a man a first class shot.

Only the distance drill and target practice require to be performed out of doors, and a very fair proficiency in the use of the rifle at known distances can be acquired without them.

It is no exaggeration to say that the improvement which results from a short course of "position" and "aiming drill" is really astonishing, particularly among such intelligent men as compose the National Guard. In the "snapping caps," a company that at first will not average two hits out of ten shots, will, after having had two or three drills in this exercise, under proper supervision, more than double that average, and after a season's practice, make eight hits out of ten. A further example of this is given in the statement made upon authority that a class of thirty volunteer officers, who had reported to the Hythe school for instruction, having been allowed to fire three shots at 500 yards, made but eighteen hits out of the ninety shots, but after going through but one course of preliminary drill, the same officers, under similar circumstances, made thirty hits, showing that their efficiency had nearly doubled by the instruction they had received. In fact, the English publications state officially that at the end of three months' drill a man will, with moderate industry and diligence, experience little more difficulty in striking a three-foot bull's-eye at 500 yards, than he had in the first instance in hitting one eight inches in diameter at 150 yards.

In addition to the benefit to the public which would result from making the members of the National Guard better marksmen, this exercise has other advantages that entitle it to recommendation. We all know that the term of service in the National Guard is long, and that, before it expires, even the most enthusiastic are apt to become a little weary of the perpetual "Four, right."

On the other hand, almost every man likes to shoot, and still more to shoot well. The practice of marksmanship gives a man confidence in himself. It makes him feel that he is getting to be a better soldier and gaining a skill that is really of practical use. If this feeling could be taken advantage of here, as it has been elsewhere (as so graphically depicted by Colonel Church in his address), by introducing the subject of rifle practice among the National Guard, I submit that it would do much to remedy these defects and make the service more interesting. It would also afford those organizations which are situated in the country the opportunity they have always lacked of meeting their city comrades upon an equal footing, and thus lead to an emulation that could not but be beneficial to the entire National Guard.

To accomplish this, however, and secure a uniformity of action, the State should take up the matter. The regulations for aiming drill should be made a part of the tactics, and enforced as such. The State should supply targets, and assist in acquiring grounds for rifle ranges, and then issue a certain quantity of ammunition annually, and require a report to be made of how it is expended. Prizes should be offered and competition encouraged, and we would then see the same result here that has been obtained in England and Canada, in introducing a military spirit among the young, and building up an organization which would not only be enthusiastic in time of peace, but efficient in time of war.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—Captain Wm. H. Schwalbe, in assuming command of Company I, Twelfth Infantry, in company orders, informs the active, veteran, and honorary members of the company that no effort on his part will be wanting to maintain the reputation of the command, and in return expects their united and active support. Every member is expected to do his whole duty, more especially the non-commissioned officers, who should at all times be examples of

promptness in attendance and neatness in appearance. The regular annual meeting of the company, having been postponed, will be held at the armory February 15 at 8 o'clock, when the annual report will be read, and civil officers elected to serve for the ensuing year. Veteran, honorary, and ex-members are respectfully and earnestly invited to attend the annual meeting, and all meetings of the company. Sergeant Geo. Baumgartner, late regimental standard-bearer, has been appointed first sergeant, vice Storms, promoted; Private William H. Vermilye has been appointed company quartermaster sergeant, vice Ellison, placed on the veteran roll at his own request. At an election in Company K, Twelfth Infantry, on Monday evening, Colonel Ward presiding, Mr. A. McIlhargy, formerly first sergeant of the company, was elected second lieutenant, vice Ed. Fackner, promoted. Lieutenant McIlhargy served two years with distinction in the Army of the Potomac, being wounded six times during that period. Governor Parker, of New Jersey, has with good judgment appointed as members of his staff the following well-known officers of the Army of the Potomac: General Gershom Mott, General Frank Price, General John A. Wildrick, and General Wm. J. Sewell. These gentlemen served with distinction in the Army of the Potomac during the late war. The Forty-seventh Infantry, through the personal exertions of its commander, Colonel David E. Austen, has organized a company for the vacant letter K of the regiment. The first meeting of the company for enlistments and enrollment will be held at the regimental armory February 5 at 8 P. M. Lieutenant Wm. J. Powell, of Company D of the regiment, and Captain Dobbs, of the First, are mentioned as candidates for the captaincy of the new company. The music committee of the regiment, after having made several trials during the past few years, has at last concluded, we learn, to form an entirely new musical organization, to be composed mainly of band leaders. This, we feel assured, will give satisfaction to the regiment. A battalion drill of the regiment will be held at the armory on the 12th instant, under the command of Major Rogers. General Meserole and staff have been invited to be present and review the troops. The new company will likewise be mustered on this occasion. The First Infantry held a very satisfactory drill on Tuesday evening, at the arsenal, parading seven commands of twelve files. Lieutenant-Colonel Webster was in command, and the regiment looked remarkably well in its jaunty uniform. By the way, Company H of this regiment, Captain Barthman, hold a "grand promenade and ball" at the regimental armory, on Wednesday evening next. From what we can ascertain, this company intend making this reception lead all other attempts in this line by the regimental companies. Decorations and hospitalities, we are informed, will be very extensive. The Twelfth Infantry, on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, held wing drills at the arsenal. The turnout was not up to the standard of the regiment; the drill, however, was exceedingly fair, and the men quite steady and attentive. Colonel Ward was very explicit in his instruction, and evinced his usual commendable interest in the welfare of the famous "Independence Guard." An election for Colonel in the Fifth Infantry was ordered for Thursday evening, too late for announcement of the result in these columns. The well known drum corps of this command hold a masquerade and civic ball at the Casino next Thursday evening. "Jolly" Berchet, the drum-major, promises a happy time to all participants. Major Dickel has been "informally" elected colonel of the fast-waning Ninety-sixth Infantry, which, as a compliment, he politely acknowledges; but formal action of the officers was forcibly declined. The Sixth Infantry, Colonel Sterry, commenced drills by division on the evening of January 29, and will continue until February 16. Battalion drills will be held on the evenings of February 8 and 15. The Ninth Infantry commence drills by division February 12, and continue them until April. Lieutenant Colonel Brain, commanding, we regret to learn, has recently been seriously indisposed.

OUT OF-TOWN ITEMS.

CONNECTICUT.—The reorganization of troops of this State has progressed well, and the different commands have been busily uniforming and equipping themselves during the past few months. The First and Second regiments of Infantry have adopted full-dress uniforms of handsome patterns, and other regiments are rapidly following in their footsteps.

The "event of the season" in this State is the reception of the New Haven Grays, which takes place at Music Hall on the evening of February 8. Downing's New York Ninth regiment band will furnish the music, and the attendance of members of National Guard from New York and elsewhere will be exceedingly large. The Twenty-second and Forty-seventh will at least be well represented, and a "good time" all around is guaranteed by the members of the "Grays," and of the Second regiment generally. The cards of invitation are exceedingly neat; in fact, the handsomest we have received in a long period of time. The handsome design and artistic taste displayed in these invitations is worthy of the special attention of ball and concert committees of the National Guard.

RHODE ISLAND.—Mr. LeFavour, of the First division staff, has presented a resolution that the joint committee appointed at the May session to revise and report upon the militia law of the State be authorized to employ a clerk, and to cause 500 copies of their report to be printed. The resolution was

adopted and communicated to the Senate forthwith under a suspension of the rule.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Previous to the Rebellion the National Guard of this State, like many of the States of the Union, comprised a few unimportant companies, whose effectiveness was of little or no consequence. Since that time, however, an earnest and very successful effort has been made toward a National Guard organization somewhat worthy of the State.

The effective force of the National Guard is at present nineteen regiments and three battalions, comprising, with unattached organizations, three hundred and eighty-two companies viz.: Eight artillery, twenty cavalry, and three hundred and forty-four infantry. Of the regimental organizations, thirteen are in the First division, one in the Second, three in the Eighteenth, and two in the Ninth. The aggregate of enlisted men is sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four, and the commissioned officers number one thousand one hundred and forty-two. The Fifth brigade of the First division, organized in accordance with an act of the last Legislature, is composed of three regiments of colored troops.

The entire force is handsomely equipped, and generally well drilled and disciplined, and prepared to meet any ordinary emergency in which its services may be required or demanded by the constituted authorities.

The riotous condition of affairs in Luzerne county during the months of April and May last demonstrates the necessity for and efficiency of the voluntary military organizations.

But for the prompt appearance and judicious management of the National Guard on the occasions of these riots, one of the most prosperous cities might have been reduced to ashes, millions of property destroyed, many valuable lives sacrificed, and scenes of general ruin and devastation produced.

By act of the Legislature, provision was made for the expenses necessary for the suppression of the disturbances in Luzerne county. They amounted to thirty-seven thousand eight hundred and sixty seven dollars and thirty-six cents.

The First division of this State, located in and around Philadelphia, comprise to a degree the best portion of the State forces, yet the subjoined official returns of the inspection made a few months since show it to be in an exceedingly unhealthy condition, requiring an immediate consolidation of regimental and brigade organizations to insure effectiveness. The figures presented are those of the men present, the absentees on the roll being excluded, thereby showing conclusively the effective force of the division:

FIRST BRIGADE.				
No. of Cos.	Officers.	En. men.	Agg'te.	
Brigadier-General and staff.	7	—	—	7
First City Troop.	1	3	21	24
Keystone Battery.	1	3	100	103
Washington Grays.	1	3	49	52
Second regiment.	9	23	299	319
Wecacoee Legion.	1	3	32	35
Total.	13	39	601	540
SECOND BRIGADE.				
Brigadier-General and staff.	5	—	—	5
First regiment.	8	22	267	289
Fourth regiment.	4	7	69	76
Fifth regiment.	3	4	28	33
Ninth regiment.	5	11	79	90
Total.	20	49	413	492
FOURTH BRIGADE.				
Brigadier-General and staff.	3	1	—	4
Third regiment.	3	10	69	79
Sixth regiment.	3	11	78	89
Seventh regiment.	4	9	73	82
Eighth regiment.	3	6	71	77
First regiment Cavalry.	5	20	91	111
Total.	18	59	383	442
FIFTH BRIGADE.				
Brigadier-General and staff.	7	—	—	7
Eleventh regiment.	8	24	238	269
Twelfth regiment.	9	15	96	111
Thirteenth regiment.	10	20	115	135
Total.	27	66	449	515
RECAPITULATION.				
No. of Cos.	Officers.	En. men.	Agg'te.	
First brigade.	13	39	601	540
Second brigade.	20	49	413	492
Fourth brigade.	18	59	383	442
Fifth brigade.	27	66	449	515
Total.	78	213	1,776	1,989

It will be seen from the above table that the brigades about equal a few of the regimental organizations of the First and Second divisions of New York State.

The following letter from E. Hammond, the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Great Britain, dated Nov. 25, 1871, has been published: "Sir: I am directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d instant, asking under what rules and regulations you are to seek redress for losses sustained in consequence of acts committed by the Alabama, and I am to state to you in reply that the claims for depredations committed by that vessel are not admitted by Her Majesty's Government, and that Her Government cannot therefore entertain, or support, or advise upon any claims of British subjects arising out of such depredations, or maintain any claims upon the Government of the United States arising out of acts committed against the persons or property of British subjects during the period between the 13th of April, 1861, and the 9th of April, 1865, inclusive, other than those coming within the 12th and five next following articles of the Treaty of Washington of the 8th of May, 1871." The recipient of this letter thinks that even in the event of the arbitrators at Geneva awarding a payment on the part of Great Britain to the United States, it would appear that the British Government does not at present hold out any hopes to British sufferers.

REMINGTON SYSTEM OF BREECH-LOADING SMALL ARMS.*



ARMORY OF E. REMINGTON & SONS, AT ILION, N. Y.

WE resume our notice of the pamphlet exhibit recently issued by the Remington Company, self-assured of the general interest that attaches to the subject of military arms-construction in our own country, as well as in foreign lands, whose proximity of boundaries and tangling alliances render constant attention to warlike industries always a necessity. The production of the great workshops at Ilion is, in fact, so very considerable an annual increment to the industrial development of the country that the financial and revenue economist may well give his serious attention to the organization which, as we have remarked heretofore, has turned out more guns in a single year than the public and private armories of any European State. That our readers may form some idea of the magnitude of the similar British industry, we give below the amounts of arms exportation from English ports for the last two years, respectively. The extract we quote is from the most valuable of our English contemporaries, the *London Engineer*, being a part of its regular Birmingham trade report:

The gun trade is fairly busy on sporting arms. Military work is at present monopolized by the local small-arms factories. The new Russian gun in course of manufacture at Small Heath is attracting a great deal of attention from German as well as other connoisseurs, and it is not improbable that an order may shortly be placed here by the German Government. It is reported that a new company for the manufacture of improved military small-arms, upon the interchangeable principle, is in course of formation, under industrial auspices, and will shortly be made public. Among the promoters named are a former Government official of large experience in the manufacture of military weapons, and a noble duke who has held office under a previous administration.

The exports of small-arms and ammunition have resumed their wonted average, the impetus of war no longer aiding them. The figures are subjoined:

	Month of December.		Twelve Months.	
	1870.	1871.	1870.	1871.
Arms (small).....	£158,192	£32,774	£871,419	£873,888
Ammunition (not gunpowder).....	123,170	22,797	675,259	1,082,506

Unfortunately the exhibit thus made does not specify the nature of the exportations, so that, in view of the known fact that, with the exception of Belgium, Great Britain is the only large producer of sporting arms for the outside world, it is impossible to estimate at all correctly the extent to which military arms have gone abroad from England. The reader will, however, not neglect to note the statement that the industry has so far become a subject of practical consideration as to have inspired the foundation of a new company and enlisted the co-operation of high officials and noblemen. Relatively to our own production, the total reported for the last year is certainly a small item, one single establishment in the United States—and we do not here refer to the Remington, whose manufacturing account for the French Government during six months of 1870-71, we believe, considerably exceeded the *Engineer's* figures—having filled a contract exceeding £400,000 in amount during the twelve-month.

The military arms turned out at the Ilion Armory are not restricted to a single pattern of gun or pistol. Whenever the particular exigency of armament or the fancy of an official commission calls for a distinctive calibre, or the omission of an indifferent feature or the addition of a new one, the capabilities of the armory have simply to answer the necessity or the caprice, whichever it may be. For the convenience and information of our readers we quote in full the list of military guns and pistols now produced:

Egyptian Rifle, cal. .433 in. or 11 mm. Sabre Bayonet.—Length of barrel, 35.2 in.; weight without bayonet, 9 lbs. 4 oz.; length of gun, 50.2 in.; weight with sabre bayonet, 10 lbs. 14 oz. Egyptian cartridge.

Spanish Rifle, cal. .433 in. or 11 mm. Angular Bayonet.—Length of barrel, 35 in.; weight without bayonet, 9 lbs. 4 oz.; length of gun, 50.2 in.; weight with bayonet, 10 lbs. 2 oz. Spanish or Russian cartridge.

Civil Guard, cal. .433 in. or 11 mm. Sabre Bayonet.—Length of barrel, 30.35 in.; weight without bayonet, 8 lbs. 10 oz.; length of gun, 45.35 in.; weight with sabre bayonet, 10 lbs. 4 oz. Spanish or Russian cartridge.

U. S. Model, cal. .50. Angular Bayonet.—Length of barrel, 32.5 in.; weight without bayonet, 9 lbs. 1 oz.; length of gun, 47.5 in.; weight with bayonet, 10 lbs. 15 oz. U. S. cartridge.

Springfield Transformed, cal. .58. Angular Bayonet.—Length of barrel, 39 in.; weight without bayonet, 9 lbs. 11 oz.; length of gun, 54.75 in.; weight with bayonet, 10 lbs. 9 oz.

Springfield Transformed, cal. .58. (short model). Angular Bayonet.—Length of barrel, 36 in.; weight without bayonet, 9 lbs. 8 oz.; length of gun, 51.75 in.; weight with bayonet, 10 lbs. 6 oz.

Carbine, cal. .50 or .433.—Length of barrel, 20.5 in.; weight of carbine, 7 lbs.; length of carbine, 33.5 in.

Single Shot Army and Navy Pistol, cal. .50, model of 1871.—Length of barrel, 8 in.; weight of pistol, 2 lbs. 3 oz.

Single Shot Navy Pistol, cal. .50, model of 1870.—Length of barrel, 8 in.; weight of pistol, 2 lbs.

Six Shot Army Revolver, cal. .44.—Length of barrel, 8 in.; weight, 2 lbs. 14 oz.

Six Shot Navy Revolver, cal. .36.—Length, 7 1/2 in.; weight, 2 lbs. 10 oz.

This list does not give the exact details of the new arm now finishing for the State militia. The subjoined formula of proportions for the fixed ammunition for the different arms will be found useful.

	Weight of Powder.	Weight of Bullet.
Egyptian.....	76 grains.	395 grains.
Spanish.....	77 "	400 "
Russian.....	77 "	370 "
.58 Cal. ?.....	70 "	450 "
.50 Cal. ?.....	70 "	450 "
.50 Cal. Pistols.....	30 "	320 "

In pursuing this subject, it is our purpose, at an early date, to illustrate the Remington breech action as modified at the suggestion of the St. Louis Board of U. S. Officers, and in accordance with the award of the recent New State Commission. The distinctive features of the mechanism and the practical value of the system are plainly set forth in the explanatory text, which we quote:

SIMPLICITY.—This arm is chiefly distinguished for its remarkable simplicity, combining, as it does, its lock for firing and its breech-loading contrivance, in one compact mechanism, composed of the fewest possible parts, and each part simple in its construction and purpose.

DURABILITY.—The working parts (each being strong of itself) are all so securely protected in the frame that not even the entire destruction of the stock will prevent efficient use of the gun; while the upper and lower extensions of the frame (to the rear) afford the strongest guards to the stock at its weakest point (the neck).

The interior mechanism is not likely to get out of order, as all delicate springs and pins are avoided, and there is no occasion for those sliding surfaces, which in certain other arms create liability to stick, from rust, etc.

* Illustrated Catalogue of E. Remington & Sons, Manufacturers of Military and Sporting Arms, comprising Military Rifles and Carbines, Metallic Cartridge Revolvers, Repeating and Single Shot Pistols, Repeating Double and Single Shot Deringers, Breech-Loading Target and Sporting Rifles; also, Revolving Rifles, Rifle Canes, Rifle and Gun Barrels, Gun Material, etc., etc. Armory, Ilion, N. Y.; Office and Salesroom, 193 Broadway, New York.

STRENGTH.—As to the strength of the mechanism in resisting the recoil of a charge, the subjoined certificate (marked G) is given by way of example, from the numerous instances on record, to show that the Remington system is the strongest in the world. In no instance yet has it failed. It will be seen that at the moment of discharge the breech-piece is immediately supported by the front portion of the hammer, which forms a powerful recoil shoulder. Both these pieces are of considerable weight and thickness, and of the best solid steel. They in turn are supported by solid steel pins, nearly half an inch in thickness, which pass through the strong iron frame from side to side. The metal in all these parts is so located as to equalize their capacity to resist the action of recoil.

Attention is called to the peculiar interlocking and bracing of the hammer and breech-piece. The greater the recoil, the more securely is the hammer locked. And, as the shoulder of the hammer becomes a fulcrum, the entire strain upon the axis of the breech-piece results on that part in the rear of the forward pin. This has been demonstrated by experiments, in which the arm has been successfully fired after having the front portion of the axis of its breech-piece removed by filing.

Even the strain on the pins is lessened by this distribution of force, as has been shown by the use of hickory wood pins, which have sustained an ordinary charge, in the careful experiments of military boards.

FACILITY OF MANIPULATION.—Attention is specially called to the ease of handling this arm.

The common soldier requires only the briefest instruction or training. The motions are few, easy, and natural, with the hand in its old accustomed position and the finger constantly on the trigger.

In sharpshooting contests or in close engagements, where the gun is handled closely parallel to the ground or top of breastworks, the Remington arm can be loaded without exposure of the hand above the line of the barrel, and without raising the gun to operate it by any lever below (as in certain other arms); neither need the repose of the gun be disturbed, thereby attracting the attention of the enemy or distracting the previously adjusted aim of the person firing. It can readily be loaded with muzzle elevated, as in the old position for priming, thus favoring its use in two-rank formations of troops.

Putting in the cartridge is effected by merely entering it at the mouth of the chamber and swinging forward the breech-piece to push it in (instead of using the finger for the latter purpose, as in certain other arms, which would be likely to burn them when the barrel is hot from frequent firing). When the breech-piece is thus closed, the arm is ready for discharge.

Withdrawal of the empty shell is accomplished by a strong and sure extractor (no spring), having a straight backward motion, in the act of opening the breech-piece to receive subsequent charge; the breech-piece (being a lever to the extractor) withdraws the shell easily.

The motions of loading being all performed from the wrist, by thumb and finger of a single hand, the Remington Carbine is most easily managed (particularly when slung to the shoulder of a saddle) by cavalry requiring one hand for the reins.

The mechanism can be readily dismounted, cleaned, and reassembled by a novice; and the barrel can be examined by the eye, and cleaned from either end, without dismounting any part.

RAPIDITY.—The Remington System has developed the greatest rapidity of firing consistent with the simplicity requisite for a Military arm.

It is believed that its rapidity has never been excelled by any single breech-loading arm operated under like conditions, nor even by any repeating arm, employed several minutes in continuous firing.

A complicated and ingenious mechanism—though working like magic in the hands of the skillful inventor or expert—would prove inefficient amid the rust, dust, and wear of a military campaign.

To ascertain and illustrate the greatest rapidity compatible with simplicity, a prize trial was recently had in Belgium, under the direction and patronage of the Government. Fifteen of the best breech-loading systems were tested. The subjoined official certificate (marked H) states the conditions and result of that trial. The Remington system was awarded the first prize, having been fired fifteen times, then taken in pieces, reassembled, and again fired fifteen times, all in the space of one minute and thirty-nine seconds:

There is no danger of accident from ignorance of the contents of the gun, or of the position of the parts, as might be in the case of an "enclosed chamber," or "concealed hammer."

When loaded, and at half cock or safety-notch, this arm cannot be discharged by accidentally pulling the trigger, nor by any violent concussion, as in the act of ordering arms.

This gun can be made of any desired weight, from 6 to 10 pounds, depending upon dimensions of barrel required.

It is well known that accuracy and range in shooting depend upon the barrel and kind of ammunition used. Barrels of any required length, calibre, or rifling, and suited to any metallic cartridge, can be readily used in the Remington system.

It is believed that the most improved system of rifling is employed in manufacturing the present arm.

The Remington System is well adapted to the requirements of all branches of the service, thus obviating the necessity of different kinds of Supplies for repairs, all the like parts being interchangeable.

It is also fitted to secure uniform calibre, whereby Carbine, and even Pistol Cartridges can be used in Rifles, in case of necessity in a "mixed command."

(G)

BELGIUM.

TRIAL FOR STRENGTH.

The undersigned Director of the proving house for fire-arms, at Liege, certifies having proved on behalf of Messrs. E. & L. Nagant, manufacturers of arms at Liege, a Remington rifle, 50 cal., as follows:

1st proof. 90 grs. powder, 1 ball, 3 wads,
2d. " 750 " " 40 " "

This rifle has received the two corresponding stamps.

Liege, Sept. 29, 1869.

(Signed) The Director,
ALPH. POLAIN.

The barrel could not receive a stronger charge, as the last one filled its entire length, 750 grains of powder and 40 balls, occupying 36.31 inches.

(Signed) EM. & L. NAGANT.

(H) PRIZE TRIAL OF RAPIDITY, INCLUDING DISMOUNTING THE MECHANISM.

The following conditions were established:

1. The competitors will perform a series of fifteen shots, the gun at the hip.
2. Will dismount the mechanism of their arm, placing on a table, and separate from each other, the parts that close the breech, the hammer, percussion springs (main), and those of the closing block, if any. (The trigger may remain in its place.)
3. Will assemble the mechanism, and will then fire another series of fifteen shots, with the gun at the hip. The ammunition may be taken from a table within reach of the person firing. Time occupied (in these operations) will be measured by the *sachimetre*, as follows:

1. Between the first and the fifteenth shot of the first series of firing, for rapidity.
2. Between the fifteenth shot of the first series and the first of the second series.
3. Between the first and the fifteenth of the second series.

The prize will be awarded in favor of the gun with which these three operations are completed in the shortest time.

The guns intended to compete will be presented the eve of the trial to a Jury composed of three members. The Jury will determine the number of parts that will have to be dismounted to conform to the preceding condition.

First Prize. The Remington System has satisfied the conditions of the trial in 1 minute 39 seconds, 500 francs.

The Secretary, F. RAICK. The President of the Jury, ALPH. POLAIN.
Liege, Oct. 25, 1869. Director du Banc d'epreuve.